Impact

Entre Nous | volume 91 | 2010-2011

Samford University

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The staff of Entre Nous seeks to provide documentation of a year in the life of the Samford Community. This culmination of pictures, stories and quotations are more than just mere images and words; rather, the book is meant to draw upon the deeper meaning and remembrance of the sequence of events that were instrumental in the growth of students, faculty and staff that occurred throughout the year.

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Photo by Caitrin Williams

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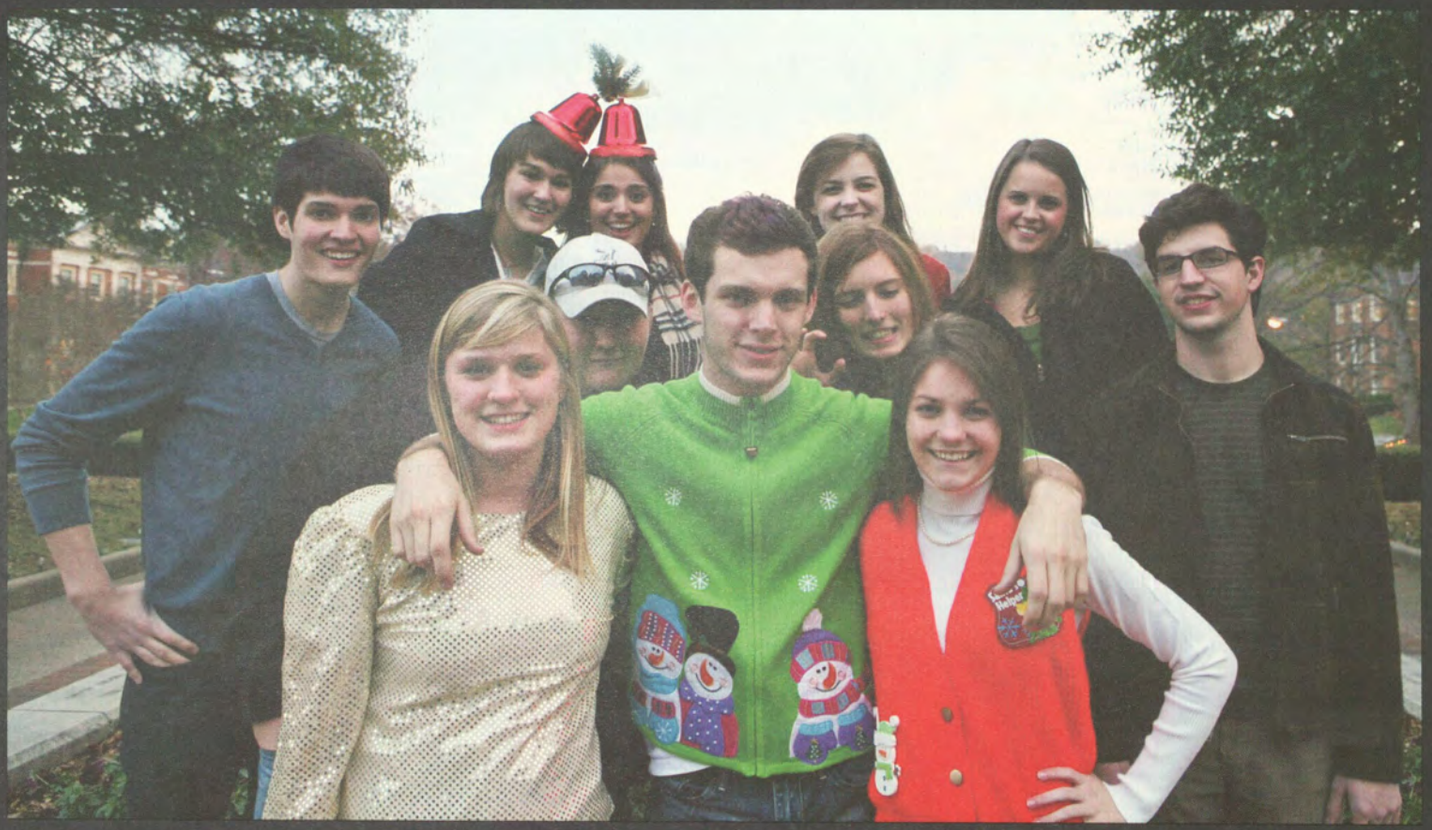
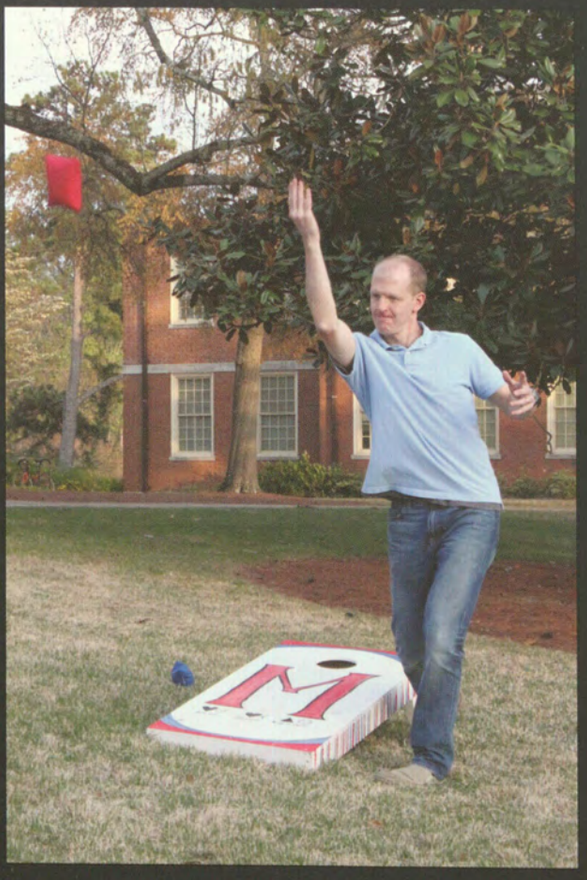
Photo by Madison Hall

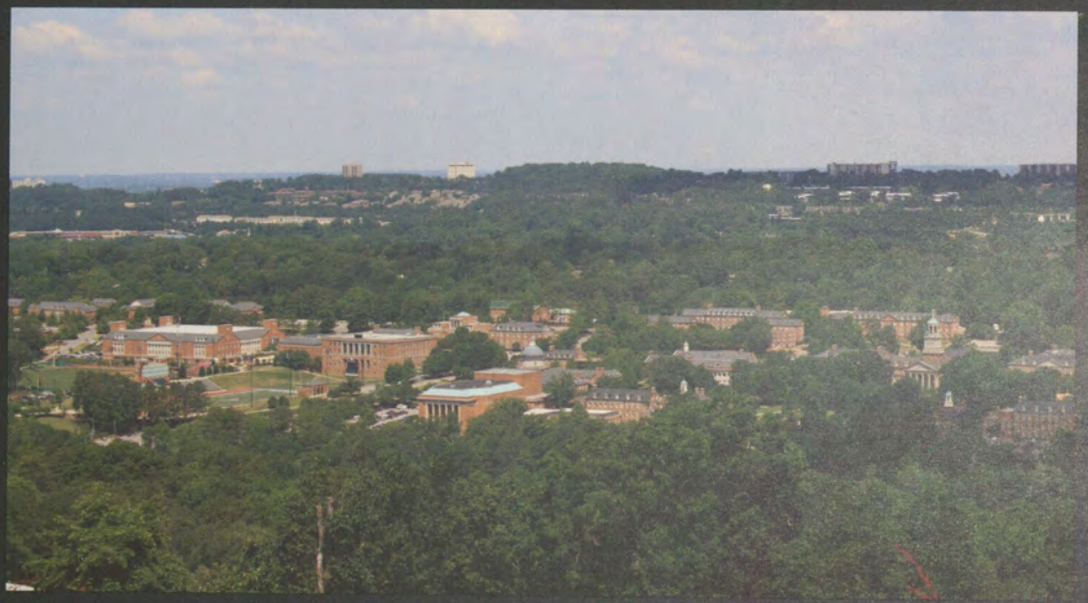
Middle Left: The Fine Arts department puts on impressive displays in the campus Art Gallery.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson





Top: A family of friends poses for winning Christmas pictures.
Photo by Liz Vincent

Bottom Right: University Minister Matt Kerlin puts on his game face.
Photo by Tim Foote



Center: Freshman Jonathan Oliphant flashes a smile in the Caf.
Photo by Liz Vincent

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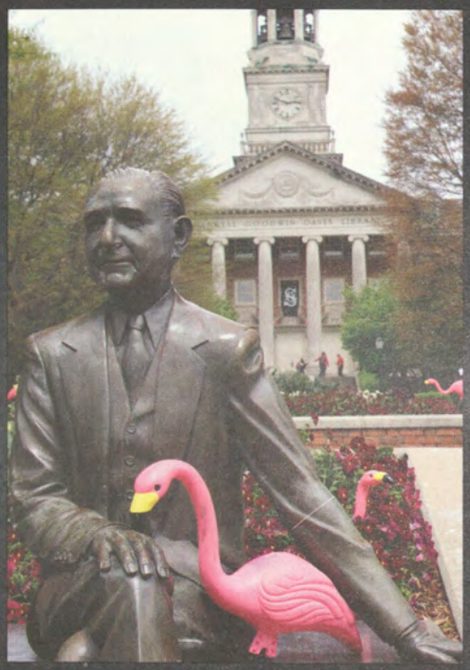
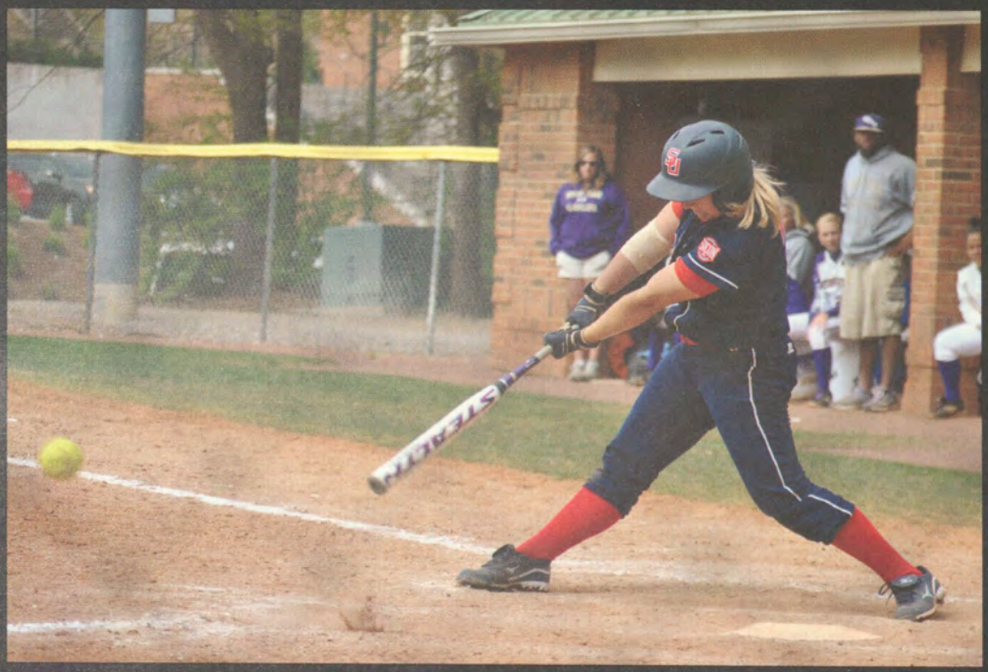
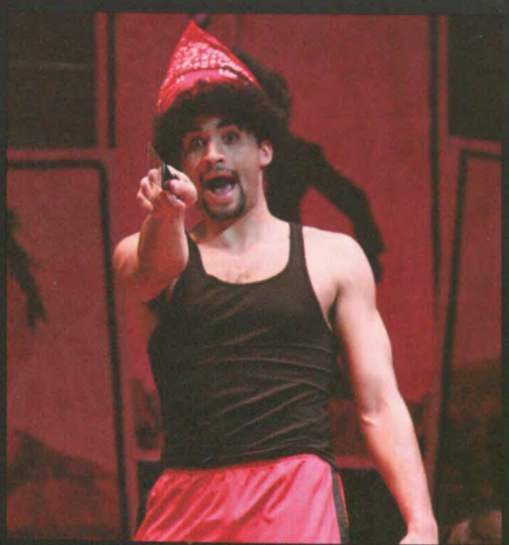
Photo by Madison Hall







Top: Joe Nichols put on a great performance at the Welcome Back concert.
Photo by Don Orr

Middle Right: Sophomores Liz Vincent, Kaleigh Warwick, and Courtney Lawson stack up.
Photo by Liz Vincent

Bottom Left: Senior Marshall Pollard targets a Youtube sensation during Step Sing 2011.
Photo by Caitrin Williams

Bottom Right: Sophomores Virginia Ebonie Hutchinson and Brooke Elkins look especially beautiful this Christmas.
Photo by Liz Vincent

A Letter From the Editor

Impact

Whether it was your first year of college or your last, the 2010-2011 school year was one to remember. As college students, there were many opportunities to make an impact in our classes, with athletics, in the community, in our residences and in organizations around campus. However, I have realized that the most important impact we can have throughout college is with our faith.

As an upcoming senior, I have gone through an exciting spiritual journey over the past three years, and it has taught me lot about life and has encouraged me to use my life for God. Matthew 28:19-20, one of my favorite passages in the Bible, says, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Even if you did not have the time or money to go on a mission trip with the University or with your church, there were many other opportunities to make an impact.

As a part of my faith, I believe that as a follower of Christ, it is our calling to impact the world for Christ. Through leadership and ministry opportunities at a Baptist university, making an impact comes easy, and by making an impact, the Lord teaches you so much about your own life and about His plans. I overcame a battle with cancer and realized that God wanted me to be able to use that journey to impact others for the better. Everyone's story is different because God's plans are unique to every individual, but through various experiences and trials, we learn how to bring God glory and make the best of our lives simultaneously.

The University's motto: "For God, for learning, forever" meant something to me personally as I recognized my capability of making an impact and bringing my own values and beliefs and skills to areas of involvement on campus and in social contexts and just in daily life. The University has made a great impact on me because of professors, peers, and other employees as well as my personal journey. The word "impact" became the theme of this book in the beginning, but its importance began to show more and more as the year progressed.

Craig Kleimeyer

samford life | today | birmingham | faith | organizations | greek life | athletics | academics

Samford Life

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Photos by Taylor Horneman, Madison Hall, Caitrin Williams, Leah Jane Henderson, Hayley McDonald and Jane Marie Hutcheson

What is your favorite Samford tradition?

"Lighting of the Way"
Katie Little - freshman undeclared

"Climbing the steeple of Reid"
Kley Sippel - junior brock scholar

"Lighting of the Way"
Paul Wood - sophomore economics

"Midnight Yell"
Caroline Miller - junior psychology and spanish

"Hanging of the Green"
Nathan House - sophomore religion

"Hanging of the Green"
Chris Walling - junior math & computer science

"Lighting of the Way"
Wes Spears - sophomore religion

"Step Sing"
Sean Altendorf - freshman chemistry & german

"Christmastime!"
Ashley Collins - senior spanish

"Connections"
Jamie Ferguson - freshman early childhood education

"Dinner on the Dirt"
Evan Elmore - sophomore math

"Nerf Wars in Brooks"
Lindsay Wiseman - freshman early childhood education

"Step Sing"
Sarah Anne Edwards - junior education

"Tailgating on the quad for Homecoming"
Kaleb Loomis - freshman biology

"Shire Parties"
Claire Heard - sophomore undeclared

"Shiloh"
Robbie Crawford - freshman philosophy and classics

"Rubbing Davis's nose for good luck before a test"
Sarah Norville - freshman graphic design

Connections
come together

by Mckenzie Masters

The lights flashed. Screaming interrupted the silence. The music pounded the air. Palms sweating, the door opened, and the dance began. The participants were welcomed with glow sticks and high-fives. Childhood favorites such as Britney Spears and N*Sync's "Bye Bye Bye" filled the Bashinky gym. New students hit the dance floor. They grabbed water bottles and snacks for a break from the heat-filled crowd. A photo opportunity with a cardboard Michael Jackson provided great photos to cherish forever.

"My favorite part of Connections was the '90s party. Singing to the crowd of girls on Vail steps and inviting them to come with us was great," freshman journalism and mass communication major Drew Hall said. "The '90s party made a wonderful atmosphere for meeting my classmates while dancing to music from our childhood."

The '90s party ushered a wonderful beginning. Students, although tired from a long day of the "Bulldog Yell," an ice cream social at the President's house, Salvation Army shopping and group meetings, danced the night away. The boys' boldness in singing to the ladies outside Vail broke the ice and provided many wonderful photos. Students formed new friendships and created bonds that will last for the next four years.

The best was yet to come. Dinner on the Dirt was held in the cafeteria, but it kicked off the wonderful night to come. Following Dinner on the Dirt, the concert on the Quad featured Joe Nichols and NeedToBreathe. Booths set up all around the Quad featured local restaurants and businesses, such as Nothing But Noodles and Yogurt Lab. This provided a great way to inform students on the best places around Birmingham. Students enjoyed the concert, free goodies and their classmates, and they felt at home.

"Connections was a great way to get plugged into Samford right away," freshman nursing major Margaret Bazemore said. "I learned more about the school and the city of Birmingham, and I loved getting to know my Connections leaders."

Another memorable event that took place earlier during Connections was experiencing the old Alabama Theatre. Gathering outside of the Wright Center, students piled onto the school buses and headed to downtown Birmingham. Awed by the classic, old-fashioned movie theater, students proceeded inside where they were greeted with popcorn and drinks. The room darkened as a man playing the organ was raised onto the stage. After the theater's beloved organ player, the movie "Heavyweights" played on-screen. "I really enjoyed going to the Alabama Theatre and watching 'Heavyweights': that movie is hilarious," freshman pre-business major Andy Brown said.

While Connections seeks to bring together the new incoming class every year, freshmen aren't the only ones who cherish their Connections experiences. Senior nursing major Morgan Read participated in Connections her whole four years at Samford, once as a freshman and the next three as a leader. After four years filled with friendships and memories, senior nursing major Morgan Read summed up her college experience."There isn't a better way to start the year: new friends, thrift store shopping, dancing to the best of the '90s and then finishing the weekend listening to NeedToBreathe on the Quad. Connections has been the best start to my past four years here at Samford."

Above: Freshmen Katie Kahler and Jamie Gentile show their joy for Connections.

Top Left: Senior Morgan Read, as a donut, and Junior Taylor Simpson, dressed in a burrito, get the Freshmen excited during Connections. *Photos by Jane Marie Hutcheson*

Left page photo by Madison Hall

Welcome Back

proves to be a *showstopper*

by Virginia Harris

Boxes littering the dorms, lines forming outside the bookstore, and the sounds of reuniting friends were all signs of a new school year. Welcome Back Week kicked off the school year right with free food, activities, and a concert featuring Joe Nichols and NeedToBreathe.

As is tradition, Dinner on the Dirt started Welcome Back Week the Sunday before classes began. But this year Connections and SGA wanted to make the event even bigger by adding a concert.

Although rain moved Dinner on the Dirt into the cafeteria, it did not stop the crowds of students who showed up for the concert on the Quad. The "Your School, Your City" event usually occurs during Connections. This year it was combined with the Joe Nichols and NeedToBreathe concert to act as a transition for incoming freshmen. Vendors from all around the Birmingham area came and handed out free food, t-shirts and coupons.

For freshmen, the "Your School, Your City" event provided an opportunity to interact with the rest of the student body for the first time. "I was blown away with how big the concert was. I would have never believed in a million years that such a major concert would be the kick off to my time at college," freshman undeclared major Leslie Lowry said.

SGA vice president of events Tori Bragg, a journalism and mass communication and political science double major, said that having two artists helped "cover our bases" when it came to what the student body wanted to hear.

NeedToBreathe rocked the crowd with their southern rock sound, and country artist Joe Nichols had the whole crowd singing along to his songs like "Gimmie that Girl." The Invite, a smaller band from Joe Nichols' label, opened the concert.

The concert attendance had the highest turn out for an SGA sponsored concert in years.

The next day began the first day of classes.

The Student Activities Council provided free food and activities throughout the first week of classes. Restaurants like Nothing But Noodles, Jim 'N Nick's and Mellow Mushroom provided free food, and the food went fast. The barbeque from Jim 'N Nick's was wiped out within a half hour, and on some days, lines began to form in Ben Brown Plaza before the food was even ready to be served.

Rain played a menace when bad weather forced activities to be moved indoors. Inflatables were moved to Seibert gym, and Jim 'N Nick's was served in Harry's.

Despite the rain, students still had fun with unique activities like racing toilets and experiments from the McWane Center. "The racing toilets made you feel kind of ridiculous, but they were so much fun," sophomore pre-pharmacy major Liz Vincent said. "By far, it was my favorite thing of the week."

The first Harry's Coffeehouse coincided with Welcome Back Week, hosting Matthew Mayfield in concert. The singer/songwriter performed to a large crowd, leaving standing room only.

The week also included activities like an inflatable rock wall, caricatures and free salsa lessons.

The biggest surprise of the week occurred during the opening university convocation.

After some delayed suspense, Dr. Westmoreland introduced the surprise guest speaker as Tony Dungy, the former coach of the XLIV Super Bowl winning team, the Indianapolis Colts. At the sound of Dungy's name, the audience instantly leaped to their feet with applause.

Dungy provided words of wisdom for students as they entered a new school year. "You never know who you are going to impact. You can do it in a positive fashion or a negative fashion," he said. "So do not think you are not a leader. Lead in the proper way and you'll never know who will follow."

After a whirlwind of a week including a huge concert, lots of activities and a surprise visit from Tony Dungy himself, Samford kicked off the school year with a bang, setting high expectations for the remainder of the year.

Photos by Taylor Horneman and Don Orr

Residence Life

makes positive changes for a growing campus

by Rachel Freeny

Junior nutrition major Kimberly Johnson has lived on campus each of the three years she has been here. Johnson said she feels a sense of community living on campus. "I feel like I'm more connected to campus life," she said. "I feel like I can be more involved in all of the campus activities and clubs." But getting involved in campus isn't the only valuable aspect of living on campus. "The experience of living with people and building community is a life experience that will benefit you in the future."

Kimberly also enjoys the convenience and security of living on campus."If anything goes wrong, maintenance, my R.A., and Campus Safety are all just a phone call away," she said. "I feel safe. I'm protected."

Residence Life has made several changes in structure and operation in order to serve a larger community of residents this year, Lauren Taylor, director of Residence Life and University Services said. "Instead of focusing on the geographic areas of campus, we're focusing on the classification."

In years past, there have been Residence Life coordinators for each of the three parts of campus: West, Central and Beeson Woods. This year, the two Residence Life coordinators are Dean Smedley, coordinator for upperclassmen, and Kacey Cole, coordinator for freshmen. Lauren Taylor said these changes will help Residence Life better meet students' needs by focusing on where they are in life versus what part of campus they live in.

Kimberly Johnson is just one of the 2,002 students living on campus this year, an increase from last year's record of 1,986.

As a result, one way Residence Life is striving to better accommodate the greater number of students is by partnering with other organizations on campus to put on events. Taylor said that working with other groups will help the programs be more beneficial for the residents.

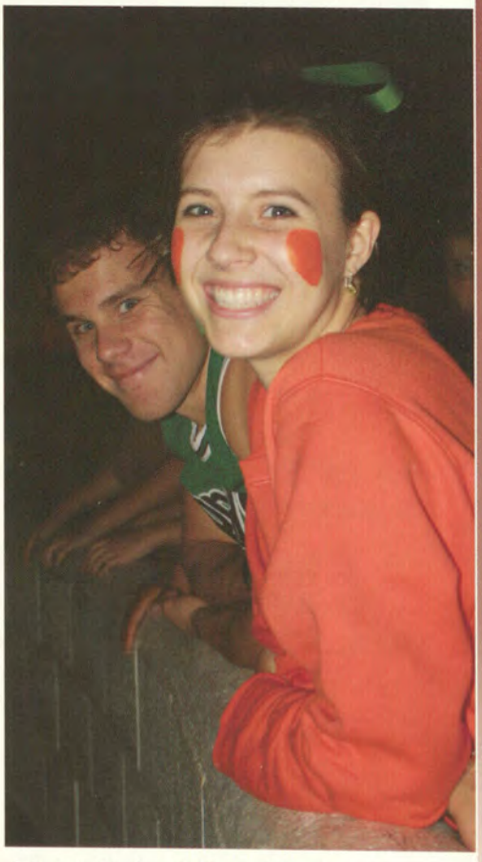
"We don't have all the knowledge for educational events the other departments do," Taylor said, "but we have a captive audience in our residents."

One of the more successful events they held this year was "Girl Talk" in October, Kacey Cole said. The event was cosponsored by University Ministries. The 150 girls who attended were able to ask anonymous questions to a panel made up of UM's April Robinson and Renee Pitts, and Emily Hynds, a math and computer science professor. "It was a really fun night," Cole said. "Questions ranged from 'why are Samford boys so lame?' to advice on classes."

Also in October, Residence Life partnered with the Student Government Association to put on Octoberfest. Students were able to enjoy free food, "mocktails," and music from folk duo The Civil Wars.

Some of the more educational events included Alcohol Awareness Week with Student Affairs, Prescription Drug Education with the pharmacy school, and Sustainability Day with the student environmental group Restoring Eden.

Senior Resident Assistant and journalism and mass communication major Lauren Sharpe said she thought it was important for Residence Life to be more involved on campus. "It's really important because it shows community involvement," Sharpe



said. "Res Life, of any body on campus, should be hosting events for people living on campus. We have more of an obligation to the students."

Kacey Cole said Residence Life has a great opportunity to influence campus with such a large number of students living here. They are working hard to make campus life enjoyable for students, she said. "We wouldn't be here if we didn't have residents."

Top Left: A creative and enthusiastic group of RAs dress for the occassion during their RA training. Liz Vincent pictured as a winner.

Photos by Leah Jane Henderson

Family Weekend

Sweet Home Alabama *by Catherine Farist*

Family Weekend was full of activities and events for the estimated 1,400 families that signed up. A preview day for prospective students took place as well, so in addition to students' family members, there were many new faces roaming around campus during this exciting weekend.

"This year's Family Weekend was a lot bigger than it has been in the past, as it had to expand for more families with more events assembled," senior history major Madison Hall said. "It was such a great time for everyone to see what the Samford community really looks like with tons of families, professors and alumni all together in one setting."

David Goodwin, Director of Alumni and Parents' Programs at Samford, helped plan the entire weekend. "We started work last March on theme ideas and design concepts," he said. "Folks from all over campus were involved for this to be successful. The last two weeks as the registration numbers kept rolling in we had some really long nights. It's exhausting - and really fun at the same time."

During the first day of Family Weekend, student ambassadors organized and worked with families at check-in. Families received packets with information regarding the jam-packed weekend that had been put together for all the families. That night a comedy improvisation troupe, Laugh Out Loud, performed a free comedy show.

Freshman undeclared major Scott Simpson was skeptical about attending, but changed his mind after tagging along with his family. "My parents really wanted to go, so I went along with it, but I ended up really enjoying it and laughing the entire time," he said. "It was really fun to have Samford put on so many events for family weekend alone. It was a nice introduction to what I can look forward to

these next four years."

The following Saturday, SGA planned a packed day with an academic fair in the Pete Hanna Center, a tailgate and a football game. The fair gave all the prospective students and parents attending Preview Day a chance to chat and mingle with the professors of Samford's former and current students.

"We were fortunate to have so many people who are enthusiastic about Samford.," Goodwin said. "Happy people make for great events, and when good people work to provide a great event or weekend, folks appreciate that."

Although we lost the football game against Appalachian State, the atmosphere presented a good view of what football Saturdays are like. The day included a tailgate in Talbird Circle that provided plenty of food, games and information for families and prospective students alike.

"Happy people make for great events, and when good people work to provide a great event or weekend, folks appreciate that."
David Goodwin

"I think the biggest event of Family Weekend was the tailgate. It combined every single person and every aspect of Samford life—admissions, Greek life, Residence Life, the Red Sea and many more," Hall said. "It was the most collective thing that happened that weekend, and I know I had a blast and saw many others doing the same."

Due to rain, the drive-in movie was moved to Harry's that night, featuring the film "Honey I Shrunk the Kids." Snacks and beverages were provided for everyone.

"I love Harry's. I actually preferred having the movie in there, because I feel like Harry's has been a part of my weekly activities since I have been at Samford," Scott Simpson said. "I enjoy going to see live music or even the rave that was held there, so I'm glad I was able to share [Harry's] with my family."

As the weekend came to an end, Family Weekend concluded with a Samford Hymn Sing in Reid Chapel with some of their traditional worship songs. It was a calm way to wind down a fast paced weekend and was especially appreciated by the parents, as they worshipped alongside the students.

Top Left: Students, families and friends celebrate Family Weekend with good food and a great community at the tailgate.

Bottom: Samford's esteemed musical performance team draws attention as they march to the football field.
Photos by Taylor Horneman

Beeson Ball
provides new experiences

by Catherine Farist

The seventh annual Beeson Ball was held at the beautiful estate of Mathews Manor in Springville, Ala., on November 13: just a 30-minute drive to the country from campus. The event was organized by Residence Life and free to all residents on campus. Students picked up their tickets in advance at the Residence Life office in Evergreen Hall. Although the event was free for residents on campus, students living off-campus were also invited to attend for a small fee of five dollars.

While Beeson Ball has become a tradition for older students, international students enjoyed experiencing an event like this for the first time. "This was my first experience with this type of dance, as in Germany we do not have these types of events in high school as most Americans do. So I was pretty excited about being able to experience this dance during my stay in America," Patricia Schad, a freshman undeclared German international student, said. "My favorite part was being able to go out with all my good friends and have them be a part of this completely new occasion with me."

While this particular venue usually caters to wedding party crowds, it served as a great location for Beeson Ball. The many openings to the finely lit walkway around the building gave students a chance to cool off after dancing with friends on a crowded dance floor, and a chance to take in the elegant surroundings.

"This is a great event for Samford students," undeclared freshman and German international student Stefan Zell said. "It gives them a chance to dress up, go out with friends, and have a relatively inexpensive evening in a formal setting. It actually ended up being a lot more fun than I had expected, and I was really impressed by the music and the DJs."

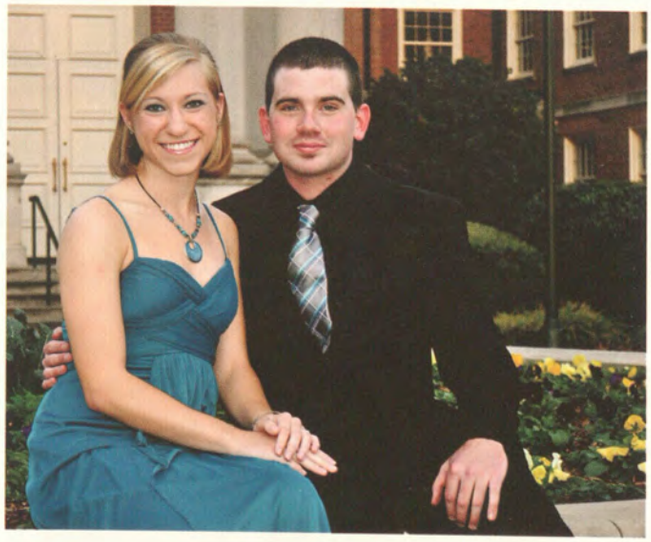
The ball had free music mixing skills of two partnering disc jockeys: junior journalism and mass communication major Alejandro Betancourt (DJ Noodle) and sophomore religion major Austin Davis (DJ 80d).

"DJ Noodle and I lean towards the art of mixing electro and true club beat when it comes to our music," Davis said. "But for the ball, we definitely wanted to play everyone's favorites and classics. We wanted to give them what they hear on the radio, what they could dance to, and I really think we gave them a good show."

Normally, these two DJs are paid for events like Beeson Ball. However, given the setting of the event, they agreed to work for free. They wanted to help provide their fellow students with a free night of fun and dancing.

The night included a diverse group of students in attendance, from freshman to seniors, national and international, both Greek and independents alike. "I thought it was such a good event for Residence Life to put on for Beeson residents," Davis said. "Especially considering all of the formals sororities and fraternities have around this time, so it gives all the independents the same opportunity to such an affair."

Beeson Ball was a carefree and fun night, and it gave students the opportunity to reminisce on high school dance days in a relaxed but formal setting.



Top: A group of friends take silly pictures in front of Hodges Chapel before the Ball.

Bottom Left: Everyone circles around as a talented dancer shows his moves at Beeson Ball.

Middle: Two sophomores take a classy photo in front of Hodges Chapel.

Bottom Right: Mathews Manor did a great job creating a beautiful atmosphere. *Photos by Katie Willis*

COMING HOME TO Sweet Home SAMFORD

by Virginia Harris

The sounds of music, laughter and friends reuniting filled the air on Saturday, November 6, 2010 as past and present Samford family members convened on campus for Homecoming. "Sweet Home Samford" was the theme as nearly 3,500 alumni, along with current students and faculty, celebrated our favorite fall tradition.

Junior accounting major Molly Jayne served as one of three co-chairs for this year's event. The co-chairs' job involved planning various events for students throughout the week.

Monday morning started off with free Chik-fil-A chicken biscuits in Ben Brown Plaza, followed by cookie decorating on Tuesday, free wings and mechanical bull rides on Wednesday, and paint ball on Thursday evening. Friday night, students enjoyed the annual bonfire and pep rally, complete with hot chocolate and music from the band Odie.

"With some things we followed tradition, and we branched out on some things—the vuvuzelas seemed to be a big hit," Jayne said of the famous South American soccer horns echoing throughout campus that week.

Jayne said that seeing students' reactions to the events was fun, but her favorite part of the weekend was starting the annual parade on time. "Apparently it has never started on time, but at 10:59 a.m. we sent them off," she said.

After the annual parade, festivities moved to the Quad, where academic schools, alumni groups and various campus organizations socialized throughout the maze of tents.

The Homecoming football game kicked off at 2:00 p. m. as the Bulldogs took on the Terriers of Wofford College. During the course of the first half, winners of the float competition were announced: Zeta Tau Alpha's theme of "Terrify the Terriers" placed first, followed by Phi Mu's "Wipe Up Wofford" and Alpha Omicron Pi's "Tear the Terriers," which placed second and third respectively.

During halftime, seniors Terra Garmon and David Saunders were announced as queen and king of the 2010 Homecoming court.

Garmon, a senior communication studies major from Gadsden, Ala., said she was shocked and honored when her classmates chose her as a representative on the court and as queen. "It was definitely my sweetest moment at Samford," she said. "It is something I will look back on."

"My favorite part of the weekend was being able to spend time with the other guys and girls on senior court because they are all students that I've admired and had the joy to know and look up to during my time at Samford," she said. "So it was just an honor to be elected and serve on court with them."

Homecoming king David Saunders, a senior early childhood development and elementary education major, said being named king was opposite of his expectations while being at Samford the past four years. "My goal at Samford has always been to have a positive influence on others while at the same time getting the least amount of self-recognition possible," Saunders said of his selection as king.

As the celebration came to a close, old friends were reconnected through the many events for alumni. One reconnection is that of former hall-mates and Samford basketball teammates, Joe Williams ('68, busi-

ness) and Mike McKenzie ('69, Pharmacy). Both were surprised to see each other but said it was a welcome surprise.

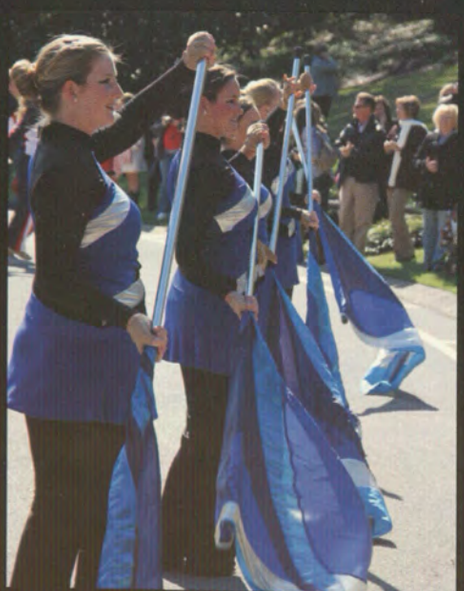
Williams returned for an S-Club officer meeting Saturday morning and McKenzie was on campus for an advisory board meeting of the McWhorter School of Pharmacy.

"The best part of the weekend was seeing him," Williams said about McKenzie.

Bottom Left: Seniors Terra Garmon and David Saunders are Homecoming Queen and King for 2010
Photo by Madison Hall

Top Right: The Quad comes to life as Samford friends and families gather for Homecoming.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Middle: The Westmorelands wave on as they participate in the Homecoming parade.
Photo by Madison Hall

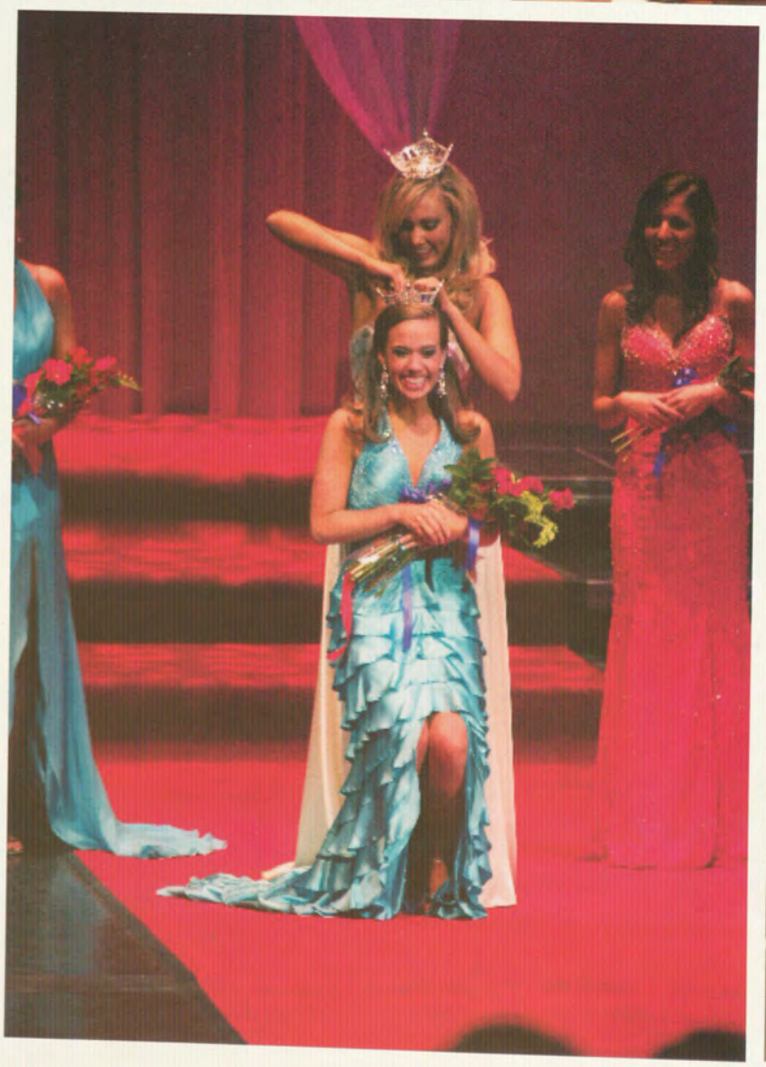
Bottom Right: Spike joins our cheerleaders before the football game.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Photos by Madison Hall, Leah Jane Henderson and Kasey Strickland

Middle Left: Lauren Womack and Craig Kleimeyer eat some bbq under the Exodus Magazine tent.

Bottom Right: Sean Flynt shares the joy of the vuvuzela with his son on the Quad.

Photos by Leah Jane Henderson

Top: (From left) Kaleigh Warwick, Ashla Taylor, Victoria Underwood, Kelsey Richter, Sarah Kathryn Sharp and Mariam Yousif were all contestants in the 2011 pageant.



Miss Samford

Glitz, Glamour & Scholarships

by Allie Klaubert

The weeks leading up to Miss Samford 2010 were extremely busy for all six contestants who prepared for the prestigious pageant. The ladies competing in Miss Samford on October 16, 2010 were fighting for the crown, a spot in the Miss Alabama pageant and half of a semester's tuition. Six young women participated in the pageant, which included an onstage interview, talent, lifestyle and fitness, evening gown and a behind the scenes interview with the judges.

Crowds of people gathered in Wright Center and watched intently as the title of Miss Samford of 2010 was awarded to junior nursing major Kelsey Richter. Richter's presented the platform "Hospice: A Giving Spirit Makes All Things Bearable." Richter, who has been competing in pageants since she was a toddler, then represented Samford when she competed in the Miss Birmingham pageant in June 2011.

First runner-up was awarded to Sarah Kathryn Sharp, a sophomore nursing major. "(It's) the fulfillment of something I have always been intrigued by but never had the courage to apply for," Sharp said about participating in the pageant. "(The pageant) is an opportunity to raise awareness and education on my platform, and the disease I have struggled with for five years, Dysautonomia." Sharp won the Spirit of Samford award.

Senior education major Ashla Taylor was awarded second runner-up. Other participants in the pageant included sophomore fine arts major Kaleigh Warwick, sophomore pre-pharmacy major Mariam Yousif, and sophomore biology major Victoria Underwood. Yousif earned the title of Miss Congeniality, and Underwood achieved the highest score in the lifestyle and fitness portion of the pageant.

Talent made up the largest portion of the overall score and provided the contestants with an opportunity to showcase their unique abilities. Sophomore fine arts major Kaleigh Warwick was awarded the highest score in the talent competition when she painted what appeared to be an abstract work during the 90-second time period. However, when she turned the canvas around during the last seconds, it was a portrait of Mr. Ralph Waldo Beeson. Warwick said, "painting a portrait of the late Ralph Waldo Beeson in 90 seconds was such a challenging, exhilarating, and rewarding experience. The Miss Samford 2011 Pageant was an incredible opportunity to glorify God with the unique talents He has given each of us, and I feel truly blessed to have participated in it and receive the Best Talent Award."

The Miss Samford pageant was a showcase of six beautiful Samford women, and their beauty was evident to those in the audience. "Miss Samford was such a wonderful display of some of the very talented girls at our school," freshman undeclared major and audience member Mary Lauren Kulovitz said.

While the audience enjoyed watching all the talent and beauty displayed on stage, participants in the pageant enjoyed developing something deeper in the midst of competition: friendships. The ladies who competed in the pageant grew close and developed friendships with one another. "My favorite experience in the pageant was meeting the wonderful women that otherwise I would have never been able to know," Sarah Kathryn Sharp said.

Bottom Left: Miss Samford 2011, Kelsey Richter happily accepts the crown.

Middle Right: Brandy Lee Roberts shows her support for her friend, Kelsey Richter.

Bottom Right: Talent Winner, Kaleigh Warwick smiles next to her ninety-second painting.

it's the most WONDERFUL TIME of the year

by Megan Stenner

In the words of Buddy, the elf from the holiday comedy "Elf," "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear." The University spread its annual Christmas cheer through events such as Hanging of the Green and Lighting of the Way. These events help united the campus during the holiday season by providing a venue to sing Christmas carols and by hanging symbolic Christmas greens. Sophomore early childhood education major Catie Stevens participated in Lighting of the Way by singing with the University Ministries Choir. "Singing Christmas tunes united us and gave me a sense of pride in the freedom to sing in front of people," Stevens said.

Hanging of the Green featured the University Chorale and the Bells of Buchanan, followed by the hanging of garlands around Reid Chapel. Senior psychology major Kathy Meriwether participated in Hanging of the Green. "The Hanging of the Green service is by far my favorite Samford tradition at Christmas," Meriwether said. "I love the way that the service ushers in an attitude of Advent among Samford students and the unity it brings to our campus as we all celebrate Christmas together."

After the events in Reid Chapel, the students braced themselves for the cold weather to watch Samford illuminate with Christmas lights. Just before the lighting took place, the University Ministries Choir sung Christmas carols in front of the library, and the story of Christ's birth was read to the cheerful audience. Hot apple cider, hot chocolate, cookies, outdoor heaters and the band "Mockingbird Sun" from Nashville, Tenn. ended the night perfectly in Ben Brown Plaza.

Events such as FreshMin's Tacky Christmas, Festival of Christmas, Discovering Your Inner-Elf, and even the Annual Tacky Christmas Sweater Day added to the Christmas spirit on campus and added an extra element of fun to the season. "The traditions at Samford are a wonderful way to focus on the true meaning of Christmas, and singing Christmas carols with everyone before the lighting of the tree is a one-of-a-kind experience," freshman biology major Rachel Shirey said.

Aside from gathering for events as a student body during the festive season, Samford holds the same spirit of Advent and Christ-like service through helping the community with citywide projects. On Saturday, December 4, Samford students and faculty joined together to serve our community during "Samford Gives Back" to help those in need at Christmas time. An Angel Tree and a Coat and Blanket

Middle Left: Seniors Meredith Howard and Marshall Pollard worship with others during the Hanging of the Green service in Reid Chapel.

Bottom Left: A student shares the excitement of this year's official Lighting of the Way t-shirt, which was created by Sophomore, Kaleigh Warwick.

Top Right: Samford's Handbell Choir chime on The Hanging of the Green.

Middle Right: Sophomores Carmen Patulea, Kathleen Jackson, Caroline Burkhardt and Sarah Waller pose in front of the Christmas tree. *Photos by Jane Marie Hutcheson*

Bottom Right: The band, "Mockingbird Sun" leads everyone in Christmas songs in Ben Brown Plaza to close out Lighting of the Way 2010.

Drive also continued the spirit of giving in the Samford community through donating items, coats, and blankets.

Even though it seemed to come quickly after Thanksgiving break, participating in the many Christmas events around campus and serving the community at Christmas time brought a Christmas cheer that helped students get through exam week.

Step Sing

a little bit of friendly competition

by Leslyn Bantley

Since 1951, groups of students have been competing against each other in the University's most time-honored tradition. Step Sing was one of the most anticipated events by students and alumni. About 875 students, in 13 groups, competed for the bragging right of Sweepstakes. The Wright Center completely sold out all three nights with eager parents, alumni, and fellow students. Sweepstakes was the ultimate goal. This year was the 60th anniversary of this wonderful spectacle.

For the 60th anniversary, the directors wanted to reveal the true essence of Step Sing. The theme, "Unveiled," represented the talent and creativity of the participants, rather than covering it with glitz and glamour. The directors definitely expressed their effort to create a fabulous show by bringing it back to the basics. Senior biology major Briana Skinner co-directed the show with senior English major Erin Holeman. The women were always there encouraging the groups to do their best; and the groups definitely reciprocated.

Dudes-A-Plenty was anything but dull as they presented their winning performance as "Grandpas." The boys, dressed as grandpas, took Sweepstakes for the second consecutive year. The men impressed the crowd with their fantastic performances of popular songs, such as "Teenage Dream" and "The Show Goes On," and the timeless classic "What a Wonderful World." DAP also won the crowd's approval in the category of Best Costumes. The directors, senior management major Cameron Free, the self-proclaimed "director of Dudes," and junior journalism major Josh Sizemore, the "director of Plenty," were very excited about their show, and for good reason. "(Dudes) want this to be as much fun as possible and make sure that every moment of our show captures someone," director Cameron Free said. The men were witty and entertaining as our favorite grandpas. They were definitely a force to be reckoned with.

In addition to DAP, the judges favored University Ministries "In the Potter's Hands," which came in 2nd place. Pi Kappa Phi's "Does It Live" took home the 3rd place trophy.

The participants voted for their favorites as well. Best Music went to University Ministries' Harry Potter themed performance. Alpha Delta Pi won Best Choreography when they decided "It's Time for a Change" in their Transformer's theme. University Ministries also snagged Best Overall Entertainment.

All in all, the performers' excitement and enthusiasm were palpable as they enjoyed singing and dancing on stage. The audience could feel their excitement because the performers spent weeks together forming friendships and relationships. "I never could have expected how much work, yet fun it would be to participate in Freshman Ladies," freshman Abby Ozment said. "I met so many new girls who I might not have met otherwise." The Independent Ladies also showed their love for one another as they performed "Friends are Friends Forever," based on summer camp experiences. Alex Gerrish, sophomore and member of Independent Ladies, "loved forming relationships and sharing the fact that (they) are independents."

Photo by Catrin Williams

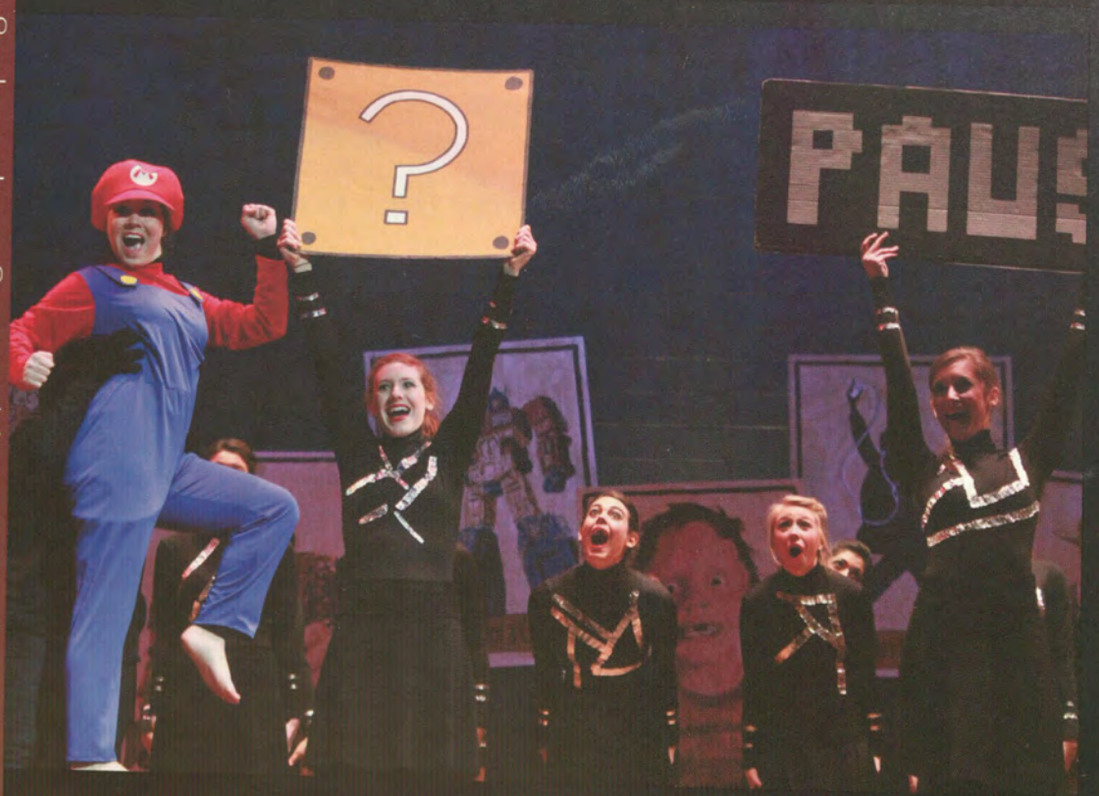
The night began when Zeta Tau Alpha sorority traveled down the yellow brick road of Wizard of Oz, with their show titled "The Journey." Then, Phi Mu recreated some of our favorite videogames in "When Legends Come to Life." The fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, showed the audience what a day in the life of a brother is like in "Shuffles up Your Day." The sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi portrayed beautiful housewives with more secrets than aprons in "Won't You Be My Neighbor." "The Organization" represented Sigma Chi's rendition of what happens when the Italian mafia meets Lil' Wayne. Freshmen Ladies explored the relentless battle between celebrities and paparazzi in "Shooting Stars". Independent Ladies made sure to "Get Intense" when they went to summer camp. To wrap up the evening, Chi Omega spent the night as toys that came to life in "Imagine That."

In this year's show, there were the usual groups, with the introduction of a new group that joined the competition. The Artistic Activity Alliance, a group of performing arts majors, brought us back to the good old days when we spent lazy Saturday mornings watching our favorite cartoons. "Saturday Morning Showdown" reminded us of what being a young kid was all about.

Even though the chance to sing, dance and perform was reason enough to compete in Step Sing, the paramount reason for the event was to donate to a chosen non-profit organization. This year's charity was Kid One Transport, which specialized in providing children and their families with transportation to and from medical appointments. The organization was the only nonprofit provider in Alabama that supplied rides for children under the age of 19 and expectant mothers to and from medical appointments free of charge. During the weeks of practice, the groups were also competing against each other to raise the most money for Kid One Transport.

The Step Sing Committee and the directors also unveiled a new concept for the Step Sing backdrop. The backdrop was a compilation of 13 individual art pieces created to represent each group's theme. Each piece was designed and created by senior fine arts major Michael Williams. He is also an acclaimed street artist from Knoxville, TN. The pieces were part of a silent auction held during intermission and after the show each night. All the proceeds went to Kid One Transport.

Step Sing 2011 went above and beyond by retiring to the way it used to be 60 years ago. After such an amazing year, no wonder Step Sing is the University's most beloved tradition.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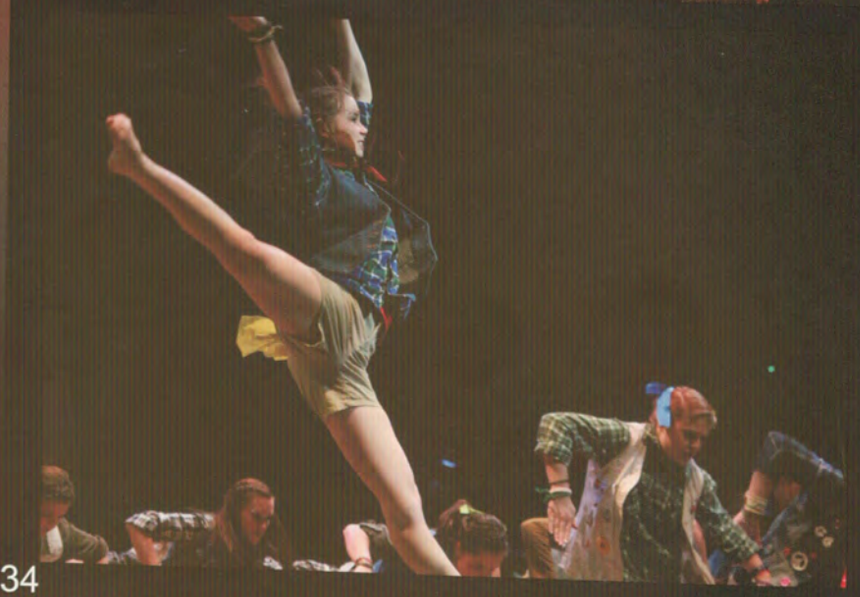
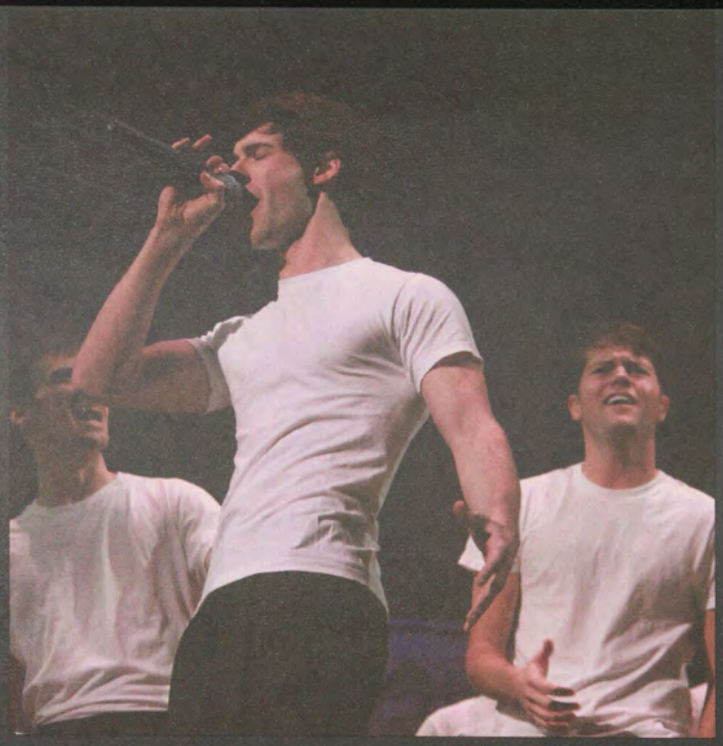
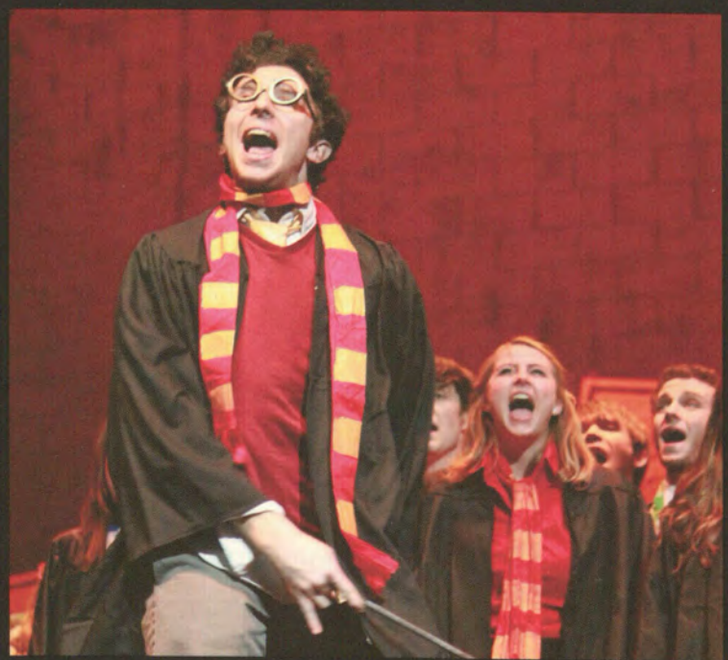






Spring Fling

I and *Love* and *Spring*

by Leslyn Bantley

Students needed a chance to relax and chill before a week of cramming and exams, which is exactly that the Spring Fling festivities provided. Because Easter was just the weekend before, students had thoughts of summer provoking them, only to come back to classes for a few more weeks.

The festivities were interrupted by a tornado that swept through the state of Alabama and surrounding states. The tornado affected students, their hometowns and their families in drastic measures. To say that Spring Fling was a chance to take their minds off of classes was an understatement, but hundreds of students still poured into the community surrounding them following the storms that hit earlier in the week.

SGA worked hard to bring the students together with exciting activities, fun food and great music. One of the most talked about aspects of Spring Fling this year was the Saturday concert. The Avett Brothers was the hit feature band hundreds of students piled in the Wright Center to enjoy for free. Students had been waiting for the concert on April 30th since the SGA announced the folk rock band in February. Senior math major Lizi Kelly was one of the devout fans in attendance. "When I heard the Avett Brothers were coming to Samford at this year's Spring Fling, I literally lost it," Kelly said. "I've listened to them for years, and it was awesome to see them play some of my favorite songs." The band of brothers, originally from Concord, N.C., has a light pop concision, yet raw energy that draws people in.

In addition to the Avett Brothers concert, SGA provided activities throughout the week such as free snow cones, paintball and Battle of the Bands. The week kicked off with free snow cones and sunglasses given away in Harry's Coffeehouse. Wing Fling took place on Wednesday in Harry's as well.

On Thursday afternoon, a flea market was held in Ben Brown Plaza. The flea market had over 40 vendors, mostly students selling handmade headbands, stitched t-shirts, artwork and jewelry. Walking through Ben Brown was such a colorful experience with all the interesting art and bold necklaces. Some students sold their homemade goods to raise money and awareness for mission trips this summer. Freshman religion major Kadie Haase sold flower hair clips to raise money for her internship in Kenya this summer. Haase was one of many that raised a substantial amount of money. "I raised enough to pay for the rest of my plane ticket," Haase said. Even if students could not purchase anything at the market, they did not leave empty handed: Brusters provided the first 300 students with free ice cream.

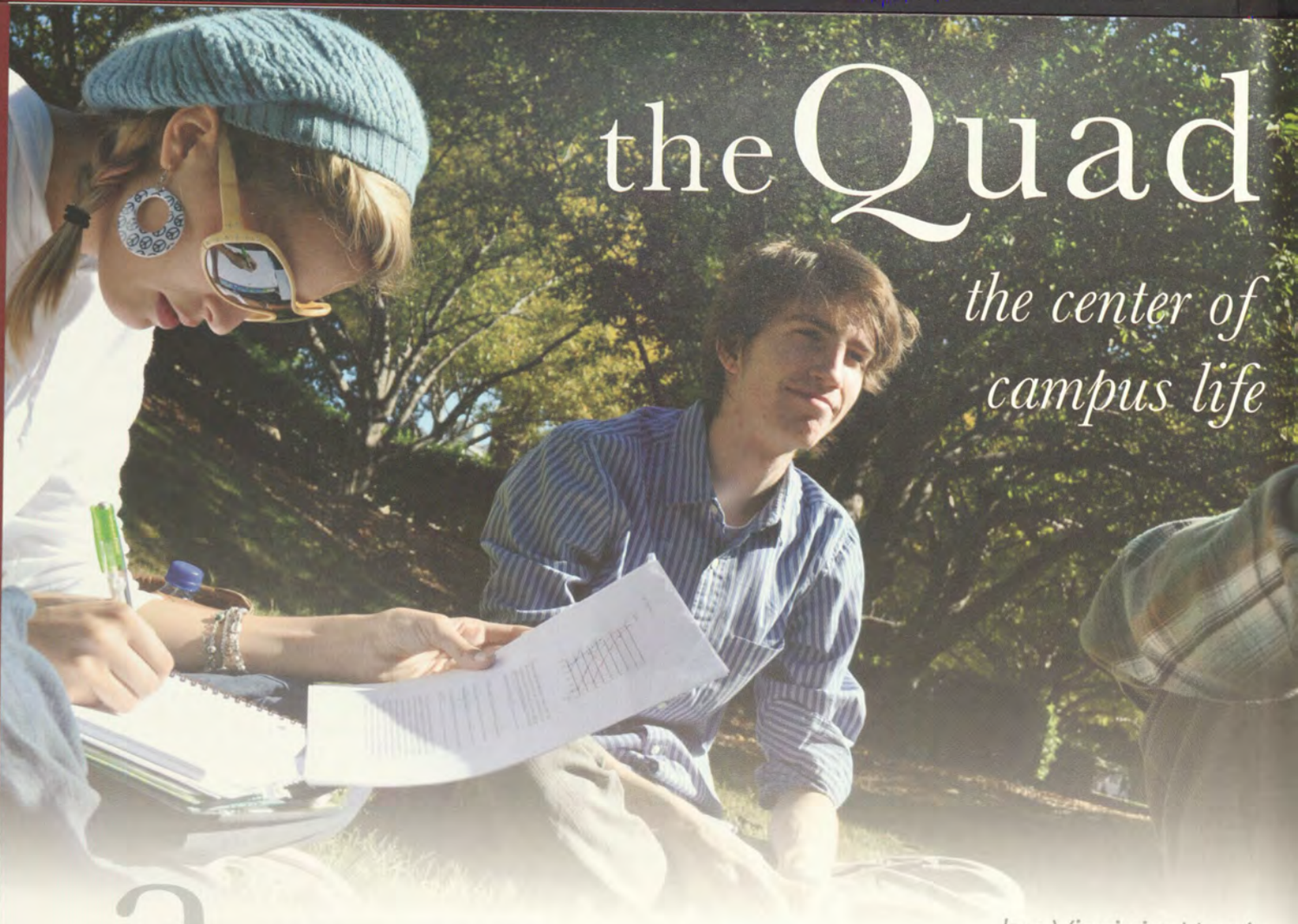
Later that night, students who purchased white TOMS through SGA were able to "style their soles" by showing off their creative sides on their blank shoes. Pens, paint and even glitter were provided for students to create their own sole-ful masterpiece. Even if students did not purchase one of the 150 pairs sold, they could bring a pair of their own shoes to decorate. Across the room was Battle of the Bands in Harry's Coffeehouse. Ten bands showed off their talents in an effort to conquer over all. There were a variety of musical genres including: rap, rock and folk. The winning band, dressed in hillbilly attire, played "Man of Constant Sorrow" from the classic movie O, Brother Where Art Thou.

Friday's festivities brought out the artistic side of the students with spin art and a photo booth outside in Ben Brown. Students had crazy and kooky props such as, giant red lips and tall goofy hats to play with in photos with close friends. In addition to the arts, cupcakes from the famous Homewood shop Dreamcakes were provided for students with a sweet tooth. Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Sarah Waller helped plan the many fun events for Spring Fling. She wanted to create a fun atmosphere before exams: "one where people can just hang out with friends and unwind from the week," she said. To go along with the colorful theme of the day, many students went over to the intramural fields for a friendly, yet competitive game of paintball.

The week ended with a Picnic Dinner on the Quad before The Avett Brothers concert at 7 p.m. The Wright Center was packed out for the long-awaited band to play famous hits such as "I and Love and You" and "Head Full of Doubt/Road Full of Promise." The diverse week brought out the many enjoyable and colorful University traditions.

Top Left: The Avett Brothers put on an amazing concert in the Wright Center.
Photo by Kaleigh Warwick

Bottom Right: Spring Fling's Flea Market brought about dozens of students who love DIY projects.
Photo by Katy Flinn



the Quad

the center of campus life

by Virginia Harris

An oasis of green

In the heart of the University's brick-filled campus lays an oasis of green where students flock to play Frisbee, sled in the snow, study, procrastinate and enjoy being a college student. The Quad remains a beautiful centerpiece to the University's 180-acre campus, as well as to campus life.

Senior Math major, Lizi Kelly, said that the Quad is a central part of student life and she enjoys sitting on the Quad admiring the beauty of campus.

"It's always easy to find friends out there," Kelly said. "I find it very relaxing being able to spend time outside after spending hours inside studying, going to class and working."

A source of unity

From taking your first picture with Mr. Beeson, to learning how to throw a Frisbee and even witnessing a "muggle's" version of Quidditch to honor the new Harry Potter film, the Quad plays host to memorable moments for many students throughout their time at the University.

Sophomore marketing major Cody Butler said that the Quad is the glue that binds the campus together.

"The best thing about the quad is all the activities they university is able to host; my favorite being tailgating for Homecoming," Butler said. "Tailgating on the Quad really allowed every group on campus to be represented."

"I remember meeting my Connections group on the Quad freshman year and since then I've enjoyed concerts, hamocking on Sunday afternoons and just catching up with friends," senior journalism and mass communication major Molly Jones said.

History, Traditions, Memories

"Sophomore year, I threw a surprise party for my friend and we held it on the Quad. We had a giant cupcake with Mr. Beeson and we played a giant game of 'red-rover' at midnight," Kelly said. "It was just a really fun night and a really good study break during exam week."

A number of University traditions call the Quad home along with its role as a perfect hangout spot for students. One of these

traditions is Kelly's favorite: Dinner on the Dirt.

"It's just really nice to come back and see everybody when you get back to school," Kelly said.

"My favorite memory is having picnics and playing Frisbee," sophomore pre-pharmacy major Kelsey Hall said.

The Quad saw many changes in 2010, but it steadfastly remains a focal point for student life.

Longstanding traditions such as Dinner on the Dirt and Lighting of the Way were joined by more enthusiastic tailgating, Shiloh common meal, sorority bid day and the smash success event, Your School, Your City.

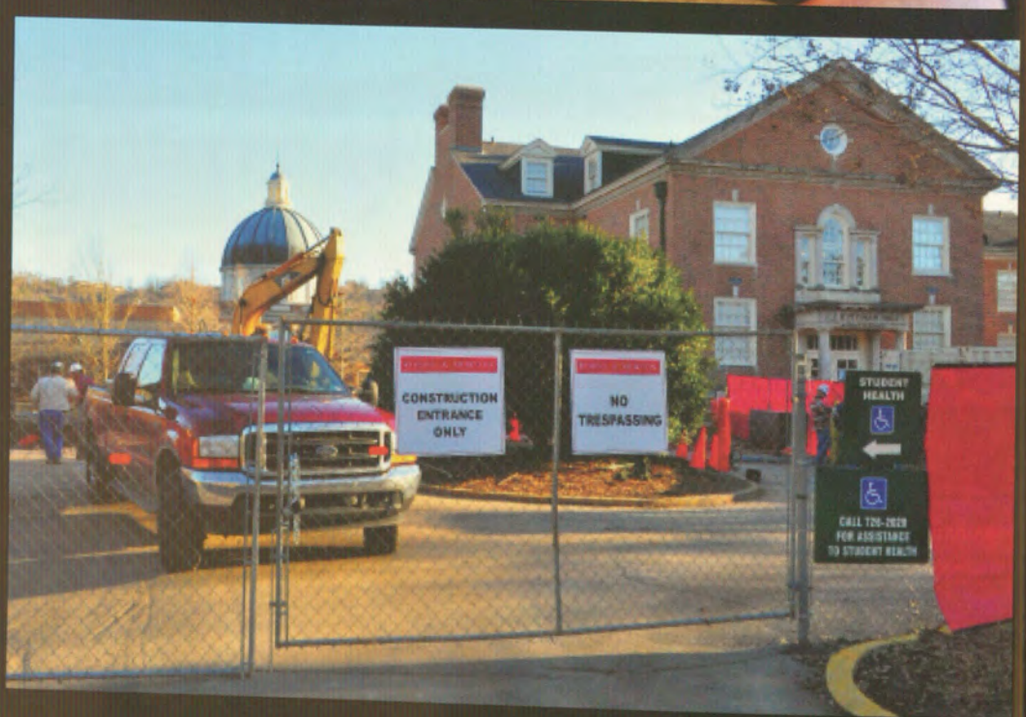
After a successful Homecoming Quad tailgating experience, the Tailbird Tailgate officially moved to the Quad, bringing the normally peaceful Saturday mornings to life with people, music, grills and game of cornhole. Shiloh moved to Reid Chapel after outgrowing Hodges, which meant the weekly common meal moved to the Quad.

Masses of students found themselves sitting Indian-style on the lush grass while munching on a delicious, catered meal. Sorority Bid day also transplanted to the Quad in 2010. Excited squeals were heard throughout campus as new members rushed to the cheering mass of their new sisters. The second-annual Your School, Your City attracted 3,000 attendees to the community fair and concert event, featuring NeedtoBreathe and Joe Nichols.

While the Quad continues to evolve in terms of its usage on campus, all students agree that it remains a way to unite the campus and the students. Kelsey Hall learned in her early years at the University this common bond between students. "I like how the Quad is in the center of campus and ties it all together," she said.

Photos by Leah Jane Henderson

yes, we can
AMERICAN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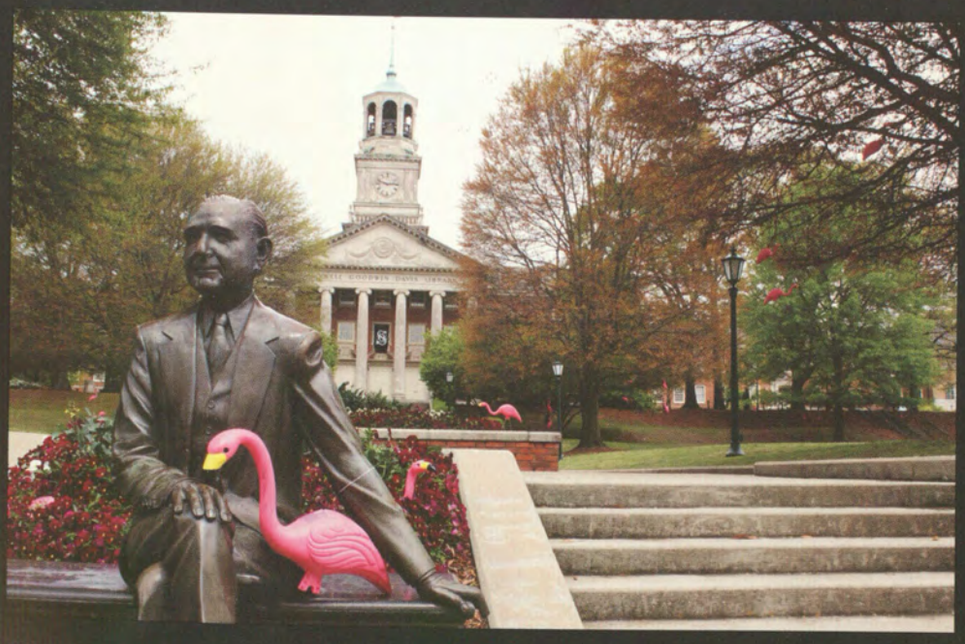

Top Left: Dozens of students and local businesses sold their goods at the Spring Fling Flea Market. *Photo by Katy Flinn*

Middle Left: Sophomore Homecoming representatives were Abby Sander and Holmes Hill. *Photo by Madison Hall*

Bottom Left: University Minister Matt Kerlin plays Scrabble as Santa. *Photo by Tim Foote*

Bottom Right: J.D. Pittman Hall gets renovated this year. *Photo by Leah Jane Henderson*

Top Left: Miss Samford 2010 Kelsey Richter and 2009 Susan Hamm wave on during the Homecoming parade. *Photo by Madison Hall*

Middle Left: Hundreds of pink flamingos took over campus on April 1st. *Photo by Tim Foote*

Samford President
The Westmorelands

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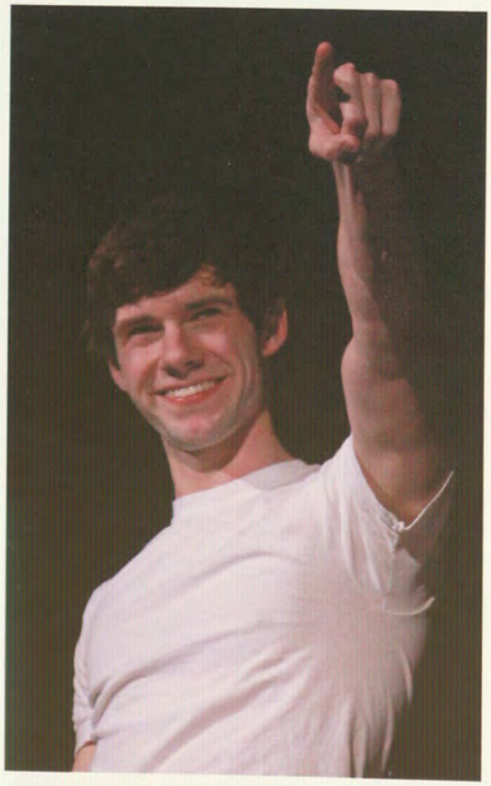
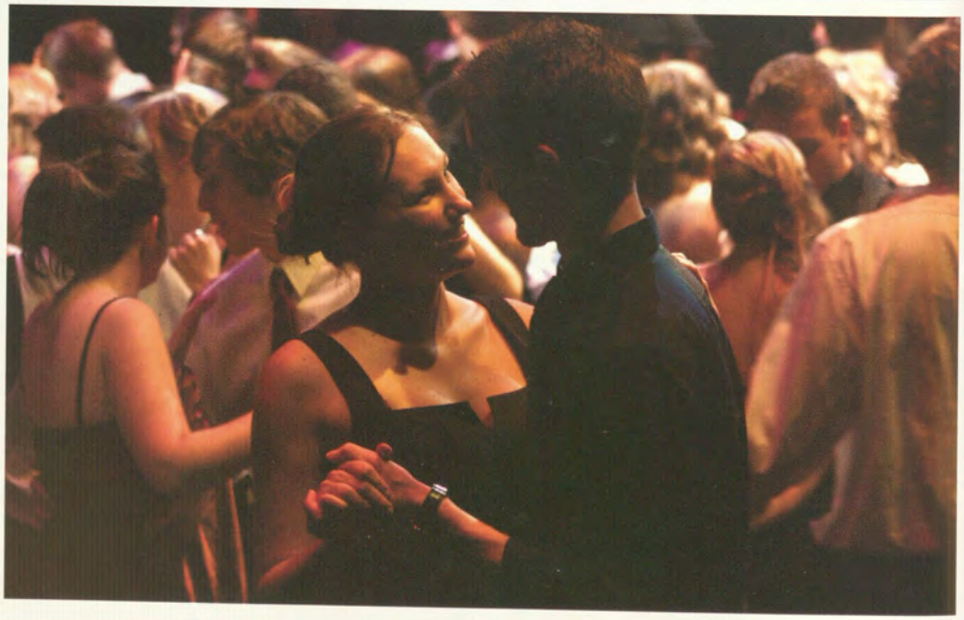
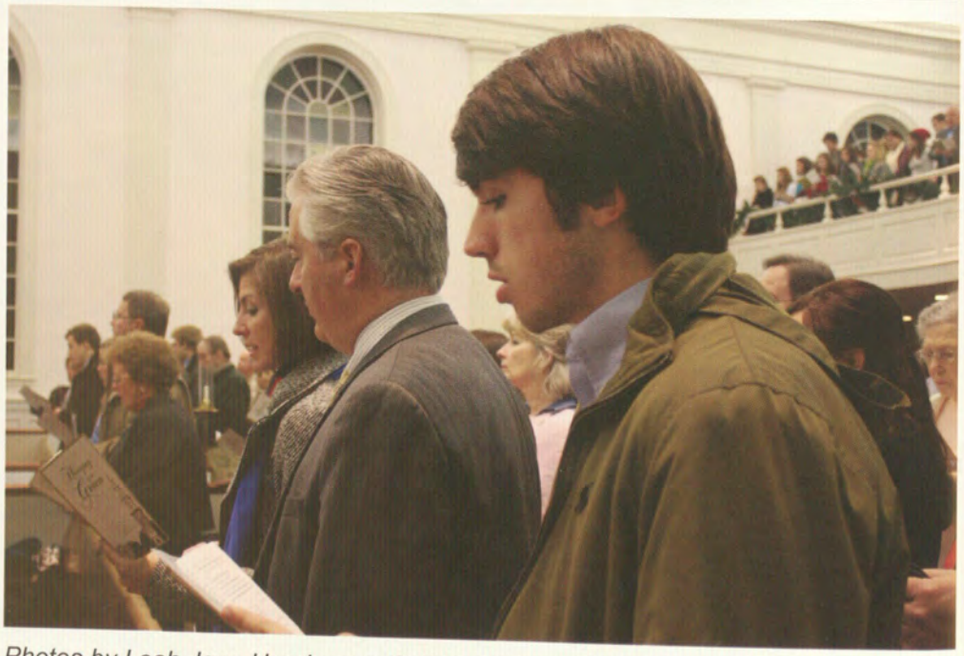






Photos by Leah Jane Henderson, Caitrin Williams, Don Orr, and Taylor Horneman

What Event Has Impacted You the Most This Year?

"UM Step Sing was the most impactful event for me this year. I met so many phenomenal people, had a blast, and got to dress up as a character from Harry Potter. In addition to building community, winning Audience's Choice for Most Entertaining show, and Best Music was just icing on the cake."
Cameron Collins, sophomore business major

"In the Potter's Hands- as a senior, it allowed me to connect with underclassmen and to get excited about what UM is doing and will continue to do on Samford's campus through them."
Jon Meads, senior religion major

"Directing the UM Step Sing show was unreal. I never knew that Step Sing practices could be so much fun or how close a group of people could get in just three weeks. While I had always wanted to direct an HP show, I never could have anticipated how well it would be received or the community that it would create."
Jen Taylor, senior english major

"As a freshman moving away from home for the first time, I found a home at Samford and with the girls of Phi Mu. By joining their sisterhood, I created a bond for life, made friends that will always be there for my sisters and me, and that see me for who I am."
Sarah Norville, freshman graphic design major

"Graduation. It hasn't happened yet, but I will be glad when it does."
Taylor Whitley, senior religion major

"My favorite Samford event this year has been Step Sing. While the actual performance of Step Sing was great, my favorite part was the community that developed in preparation for the event. I was in the UM show, and I think we spent more time pulling pranks, cracking jokes, and making friends during practice than we did actually practicing. But what a joy it was. As a senior, it was so refreshing to spend time with freshmen and sophomores to whom the experience of Step Sing is still new and exciting."
Meg Lacy, senior religion major

"The event that I have appreciated the most this year was the Lighting of the Way. There is something really special about gathering with the Samford community that I love so much to hear the Christmas story and sing Christmas carols. It was wonderful to celebrate the true reason for the holidays and to enjoy the company of my friends and classmates on such a magical night."
Sarah Morse, sophomore psychology major

"The event that has impacted me the most this year would have to be Your School/Your City combined with Dinner on the Dirt. This was a great last "first event" for me as a senior and I will always remember the amazing turn out. It showed not only how great the Samford community is, but also the support we have from the Birmingham community. I just loved being back with all my friends and showing my Connections group what a great place Samford is."
Maddie Henderson, senior english major

"My favorite event this past year was something called a Night of Peace that I helped organize this past December. Students came together on the quad and prayed throughout the night for peace for nations in the Middle East. Seeing others living out the command to love our neighbors and our enemies was inspiring, encouraging, and served as a reminder that we are called to something greater."
Caroline Noland, junior business major

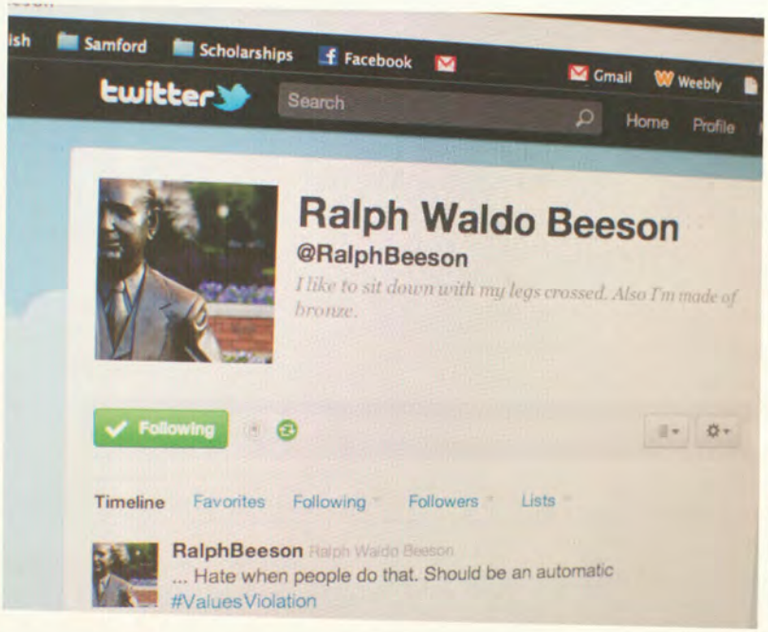
"Hanging of the Green, without a doubt, impacted me the most this year. It was extremely humbling and such an honor to be chosen as a senior honoree to lead the Samford community in its Advent service. Above all, it was an affirmation that my time here at Samford has been meaningful not only to me but also to others and impacted this community."
John David Corwin, senior classics major

"The event that has impacted me the most so far this year has been the uprisings in the Middle East which have resulted in the cost of oil rising to record highs."
Jordan Bellar, sophomore business major

What's New?

by Katie Ormsbee

geek. n. 1. A devotee to the new Fox show, "Glee." 2. A college-aged cyber stalker of new heartthrob Darren Criss. 3. The kid responsible for warbling out Journey covers in the communal showers. Whichever way you define it, Glee-mania was only one of the many new trends and obsessions to hit campus in 2010. But true to form, students have found a way to go beyond the trendy veneer and start their own traditions on campus. Lindsay Cleveland, junior music education major and founder of Samford's first official show choir, Vocal Impact, is no exception. "All through high school I was in show choir," she said. "I felt like Samford needed it. We have music and theatre, but show choir is something we lack that will benefit the campus." The group is currently 27 members strong and an even mix of music and non-music majors. They organized their first performance, AWAKE, for the end of spring semester. "Glee isn't real show choir," Cleveland said. "It's different, but I think it will draw some people to our group who like the show."



Show choir was not the only on-campus change in keeping with the times. While Hollywood stars were prepping their Academy Award acceptance speeches, the University's Film Club hosted its first annual Oscar-themed Film Festival. The week before award night, the club screened six Oscar-nominated films on campus, including Inception, The Social Network and Winter's Bone. "We showed a few films that most people probably hadn't seen, so it was nice to provide them that opportunity," Film Club president and sophomore English major with a film studies concentration Drew Young said. "In the future, I'd like to see the Festival grow in attendance and reputation. Like any film festival, it's only good as the films that are screened, but I've got high hopes for the next few years as the Film Club Festival becomes more of an establishment."

The University continued to renew its commitment to the Birmingham community by spearheading the Shades Creek Erosion Control Project. The project entailed placing a series of rock vanes in the riverbed to direct the flow of the water toward the center of the creek and establishing a riparian buffer zone of native plants. The biology department involved many of its majors in the project, including senior biology major Katie Carroll, who worked at the project site for her senior thesis. "I think it's great that Samford is taking the time and investing the money in a solution that's environmentally friendly, rather than going for the quick-fix that so often leads to a greater problem in the long run," Carroll said.

In addition to the work outside its gates, the University made environmentally friendly changes on campus proper. In Beeson Woods, new recycling bins appeared as part

of Samford's ongoing Go Green campaign. "I think they're a great way to encourage students to be more environmentally conscious," senior sociology major Nicole Williams said. "I think students are more likely to recycle if the receptacles are conveniently located on their daily route. The next step should be to put more recycling bins in academic buildings."

Still other, larger physical changes appeared on campus. Midway through the school year, a new, looming construction project cut off pedestrian access from Talbird Circle to the quad, raising a makeshift bridge and many a student's eyebrow. According to Lauren Taylor, Director of Residence Life and University Services, the project will be a complete renovation of the freshman dormitory Pittman. Current rooms will receive new heating and cooling systems, paint, and plumbing. The project will also add a new wing on the building's east side and relocate Health Services from its current location on the first floor to Siebert Hall, allowing room for fifty-six new beds and a fully equipped community kitchen. "I think it will be great for new classes," Taylor said. "People like

Photos by Taylor Horneman

Freshman Class

by Katie Ormsbee

Every year, the University receives its incoming freshmen class with open arms, beginning with Orientation and Connections Weekend and leading all the way up to those last final exam jitters during spring semester. Organizations across campus invested in activities to welcome and involve the Class of 2014. University Ministries' (UM) Freshmen Ministries held its FreshMIN retreat for the fourth year in a row. The retreat took place at Springview Retreat Center and hosted more than 400 students, providing freshmen the chance to build new friendship while blobbing, throwing frisbees, hanging out by the lake and chatting around the bonfire. Freshmen Ministries also coordinated two game nights, revived the Tacky Sweater Christmas Party, and started two new traditions: the Hillbilly Fall Festival and the Tacky Spring Prom. They also worked with SGA and ResLife to host the talent-packed "Freshmen Got Talent" in the spring.

"One thing that I've seen with the Class of 2014 is their excitement about Samford and their eagerness to get involved with what's going on in any way they can," senior psychology major Kathy Meriwether, who served as the 2010-2011 Freshmen Ministries Coordinator said. "They've been super enthusiastic and have made all of our events great successes just because they bring the fun!"

In addition to large group activities, UM also hosted FreshMIN small group Bible studies. "I've loved getting to know some pretty amazing girls in a deeper way this year," Meriwether said. "My favorite thing is watching freshmen grow over their first year away from home; the transformation that happens is amazing to see, and I love being able to be a part of that process."

Freshmen Ministries was not the only group on campus to encourage freshmen outreach. "One of Reformed University Fellowship's primary focuses is to welcome freshmen and help them find community at Samford," senior biology major Katie Carroll said. "We want RUF to be a place where anyone and everyone feels at home and that they can be themselves without fear of judgment."

During the fall semester, RUF hosted a freshmen cookout, providing students with games, tunes and good food. RUF also provided a freshman bible study led by campus minister Jason Sterling. Upperclassmen led small groups within the bible study to help foster inter-class relationships. Most of these studies ended in a trip to Yogurt Lab, where the fellowship continued off-campus.

"My first year at Samford, upperclassmen rarely talked to lowly freshmen such as myself. We are fighting that trend with everything we've got. Freshmen need someone to show them the ropes," Carroll said.

But perhaps the students who were most proactive about getting freshmen involved on campus were the freshmen themselves. Freshman Forum kicked off the school year with a Freshmen Rave, which they advertised by a flash-mob in the cafeteria to the song "Club Can't Handle Me." Biology major

Fast Facts

Enrollment
Total: 718
Male: 249
Female: 459
Out of State: 66%

Academics
Average GPA: 3.7
Valedictorian/Salutatorian: 41
National Merit Finalists: 12

Emily Johnson, one freshman instrumental in the rave, shared about her experience. "It definitely got people's attention," she said. "There were over 300 freshmen in attendance, as well as over 800 views of the dance on YouTube alone. Plus, it was so much fun. I mean, how often do you get to dance on top of tables to club music in the caf?"

Johnson gave advice to the incoming Class of 2015. "College is about the choices you make—not your parents, not your friends, not your professors. It's about finding the right balance between schoolwork, social life, and the one you will always forget about, sleep. You won't find the perfect balance right away, so don't beat yourself up over it. Just keep calm, and do better next time. And remember, when in doubt, go to Waffle House."

Top Left: Everyone had a blast dressing up for a hillbilly night.

Top Right:: Three friends spend time together on the FreshMin retreat at Springville Camp.

Middle Bottom Right: Drew Hall and his comrads won the Freshman Talent Show with their a cappella performance

Photos by Jane Marie Hutcheson

The University completes new

Track & Soccer Complex

by Lauren Cherry

The spring opened the door for a whole new era in Track and Field and Women's Soccer with the completion of the much talked about Track/Soccer Complex. Ever since the Cooney Family Field House was constructed in 2008 and renovations were done to Siebert Stadium, Samford Track and Field has been without a track.

This school year Samford broke ground on a brand new Track/Soccer Stadium. The construction plans have been in the works for several years and the groundbreaking ceremony was held on August 24, 2010. This huge complex is right across from campus on the other side of Lakeshore Drive.

Track and Field members used to share a track with Homewood High School, and it required that they traveled a ways away. With the new track, team members are more excited about being on the team.

"I am excited to have a new track because it gives us a place to train without having to leave Samford," sophomore sports medicine major Bobby Ellison said. "Plus, it is awesome to have a facility that we can be proud of."

The added convenience of the new complex is only part of the package. In addition to offering a closer practice location for the athletes, it is also equipped with state of the art features. The complex includes a nine-lane track with each lane measuring 48-inches wide and a regulation soccer field that sits inside the track's perimeter. There is a 5,000-square-foot support building located next to the track and soccer field. This building houses public restrooms, a concession stand, a ticket booth and private locker rooms for the teams. The seating capacity for the surrounding stadium is 1,200 including 360 chair-back seats. On top of the stadium sits a 300-square foot press box.

"I think that our new facility has the poten-

tial of being one of the top facilities in the Southeast as well as being on par with many others in the nation, we are really excited about the university making it possible for us to build this," head soccer coach Todd Yelton said.

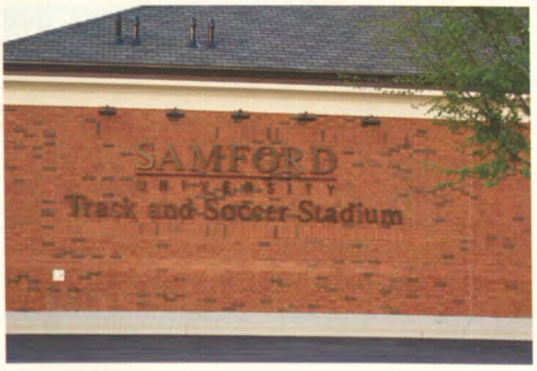
In addition to being open for the Track and Soccer team, the complex is also open to the entire University community. This new complex will be used for wellness classes and other classes that deal with physical activity, such as Concepts. The complex helps free up other fields so that the campus recreation and intramural departments can expand.
"This is the last piece of the puzzle for us," track and field coach Rod Tiffin said. "We really feel that this can take our program to the next level, and we cannot wait to start practicing and competing."

The new stadium will also help both the Track and Soccer teams with recruiting. In years past, the University has lost out on some great athletes because of a lack of high quality facilities. The stadium will attract prospective students and allow Track and Field and Soccer to become more selective.

The track and soccer teams are both excited about the changes that will occur because of the new complex. For starters, they expect a much larger turnout to their games and meets. With the convenience of the new complex, Bulldog athletes hope that a bridge will be formed between the University community and these two athletic teams.

"It is so exciting that when we open our season in the fall we will have a brand new facility. I think that we will get a higher turnout from the student body because they will not have to travel all the way to Bulldog Field," freshman soccer goalie Julia Wright said. "I'm really glad I will be able to play at the new stadium for the rest of college."

The final construction was completed in time for Samford Track and Field to compete in their first home meet. On April 22 and 23, the University hosted the Southern Conference Outdoor Championship. This was the first time this event has ever been to Birmingham, and the new complex served as the perfect venue. The Track/Soccer Stadium planned to host the 2012 Southern Conference Women's Soccer Championship.



Samford Crew

the tradition begins

by Catherine Farist and Kley Sippel

The University's rowing history dates back more than one hundred years, where it also, sadly, ended. In 1909, ten men of Howard College formed a crew team at East Lake. Their presence is recorded in Entre Nous, but that is the only record there is. The tradition is back, though.

In the fall of 2010, freshman business major Drew Fahrion brought his passion for crew to the University. He brought old rowing machines from his high school boathouse, and he began running workouts with several friends in an attempt to start a rowing club.

Over Christmas break, several members including Fahrion dropped the sport. It seemed that what Fahrion had so vigorously started in the fall was about the fade away.

Three rowers, freshman biology major Adam Beasley, freshman German and journalism and mass communication major Catherine Farist and junior Brock Scholar Kley Sippel decided to keep going.

On the administrative side, Sippel wrote a Constitution, and the crew applied to become an official campus organization. Beasley assumed the role of President, Sippel became Vice President for Development, and Farist became Vice President for Regattas. Later in the semester, sophomore education major Courtney Sheerin was appointed Secretary, and sophomore business management major Don Orr was appointed Vice President for Finance.

The next priority was recruitment. In two weeks there were more than 40 students interested in joining crew.

"I was expecting maybe ten recruits. Rowing isn't popular in the South, and we're a new program," Sippel said. "The response was overwhelming and incredibly encouraging to all of us."

> *"The sources of philanthropy – high-level administrators, community organizations, and teammates themselves – have provided a lot of validation that we're on the right track and are building something of true value."*
> *Kley Sippel*

Community, not just athleticism, was important during recruitment, too. One of the promo posters read: "Rowing is just the sport. Crew is the culture."

"We were looking for people to form a strong team, not just a set of athletes," Farist said. "We were looking at the whole picture and took on people we felt could provide a solid support system as a dedicated team."

At the end of recruitment, 21 recruits were invited to join the team. They received letters signed by Beasley and an invitation to First Meal, a tradition to start a new member's experience off with the culture, not just rowing. This year it was dinner at Dave's Pizza in SoHo and movie a back on campus.

The crew spent the spring semester training hard for the next fall season, when they

planned to begin racing. Apart from land practices in Seibert Hall, the crew practiced on Lake Purdy under a partnership with the Birmingham Rowing Club (BRC). However, the BRC had only one racing boat, compared to most college programs that have ten or more.

"It's hard with just one boat, and it's not even ours. But, we make it work. Hopefully we'll have our own racing shells next year," Beasley said. Philanthropy, including a large donation from Sarah Latham, Samford Vice President for Operations, was critical for the crew's initial success.

Photo Courtesy of Kley Sippel

"The sources of philanthropy – high-level administrators, community organizations, and teammates themselves – have provided a lot of validation that we're on the right track and are building something of true value," Sippel said.

"The team is really coming together in what the leadership hoped the Samford Crew culture would look like," Adam Beasley said. "I look forward to getting on the water more with the crew and competing with such a great group of athletes next semester."

Economic
woes & an uncertain future

"Students used their work ethic and drive to succeed to persevere throughout this tough economic year."

by Molly Jones

The American economic situation had been nothing short of chaotic from 2010-2011. The unemployment rate stood at 8.9% in the state of Alabama in November. For those who voted in the November elections, the economy was among the top concerns of voters when they headed to the polls.

A study projected that this generation would be the first to make less money in their lifetime than their parents. Many students found this study alarming.

Students did not turn a blind eye to the economic woes of the society. They realized how it affected their day-to-day lifestyle and also voiced concerns about the uncertain futures they faced upon graduation.

Some students noticed the economic troubles in their jobs at area businesses and companies. Junior journalism and mass communication major Carson Pyles was employed by O'Henry's coffee shop in Homewood since July 2010. Pyles said from his viewpoint there was actually very little economic impact to the small business.

"I see people from all sorts of economic backgrounds who are willing and ready to hand over their dollar bills for a latte," Pyles said. "People certainly make coffee a necessity."

Though some people are beginning to brew their own coffee at home, Pyles said the faithful customers would not be giving up their cup of coffee during this economic recession.

"Coffee is actually the second-most-traded commodity in the world behind oil," he said. "I don't see that changing any time soon, no matter how a changing economy affects us."

Summer internships that paid were a rare find, and students usually had to pay tuition to the University in order to receive credit for those internships.

Senior marketing major Camille Coons interned with the Grodner Group for the summer of 2010.

"While the learning experience I had there proved to be beneficial as a marketing major, my experience would have been even greater had it been a paid internship," Coons said. "Not only was I not being paid, I was also having to pay Samford tuition to receive credit for the internship."

Many students took jobs on top of their course loads to pay for their expenses, but often minimum wage did not cover everything a student needed.

Senior education major Paige Slaughter worried about her future teaching career.

"As an education major I am very worried about finding a job for the 2011-2012 school year," Slaughter said, "There are limited job openings at schools, and funding is being cut drastically. This leaves highly qualified teachers unable to find jobs."

Senior nursing major Emily Apple also felt a little uneasy. Even though her field is usually not as affected by the struggling job market, she still had a few concerns.

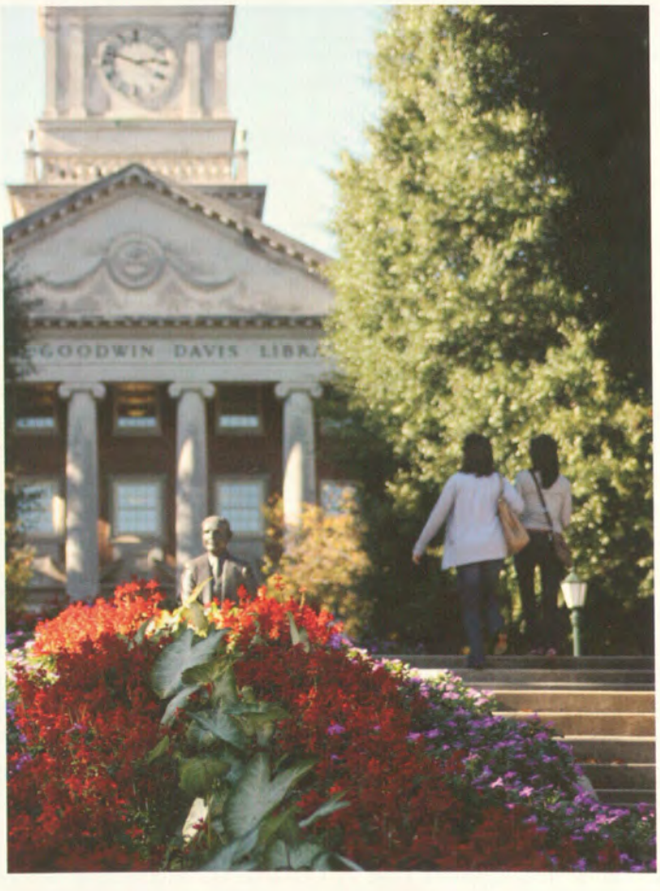
"Although my major is nursing, the job market is still very competitive," Apple said. "I am also very picky, which probably doesn't help the situation much. I know that I will be able to find a job in nursing, it just may not be my top choice."

However, in the midst of all of this economic turbulence, many students remained hopeful that their degree would push them past the competition and into the job of their dreams.

Senior public administration and sports medicine major Dan Hall remained hopeful that his degree would help him secure a job in his field.

"I realize the job market is tight during the current economic conditions," Hall said. "But I think the skills I've gained and the experiences I've had while at Samford will make me marketable to potential employers in the fields I am interested in."

Students used their work ethic and drive to succeed to persevere throughout this tough economic year. Despite the struggles, the dwindling economy did not keep students from making the most of the year, even if they were keeping to a stricter budget. Students found ways to stretch a dollar to its maximum potential, whether that be catching a movie at the dollar theater in Vestavia Hills or enjoying the three dollar meal deal at Mamma Goldberg's in Homewood. Students maximized their resources and learned to save a few bucks in the process.



Top: Senior Ben Wells proves that it is possible to study without the assistance of coffee.

Photos by David Hildebrand and Allison Klaubert

Public Safety

increases its presence on campus

by Susan Hamm

The Department of Public Safety dealt with incidents like the infamous streaker and the nonexistent masked shooter. The inadequate ratio of parking spaces to vehicles on campus provided many issues with parking and also presented many issues with loading and unloading, especially near residence halls. With the restructuring of the Operations and Planning Division, parking tickets became a priority for the Department of Transportation Services.

Public Safety officers issued tickets for handicapped parking space violations and the obstruction of a fire lane. With that change, the officers increased the amount of training they received and updated their uniform to appear more professional. They increased their patrolling of buildings, and they handled issues of safety more proactively than reactively. The men and women of the department were not simply security guards: many were police officers with the power to arrest under state law.

Senior sports medicine major Hugh Smith saw the effects of the restructuring. "Over the past three years that I have been at Samford, I have seen Public Safety begin to operate in a much more efficient and professional manner," Smith said.

In order to combat the frustrations of students, Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management Mike Coppage hosted focus groups with students.

"We want to allow students to get to know our Public Safety Officers. We also are working closely with the Dean of Students Office to address special situations," Coppage said. These changes led to more respect for the department around campus. "I believe Samford students respect Public Safety and its policies more than ever before," Smith said.

"Our job here at Samford is anything but typical," Lieutenant Kevin Gillilan said. "We are here for general assistance and customer ser-

vice," he said. "We also work in concert with Residence Life to provide educational programs."

Sophomore pre-pharmacy major Mariam Yousif said that she thought Public Safety got the customer service part right. "They just give big smiles and wave at me as I'm returning to campus after the gates have closed," she said. "I just think they're wonderful. Even my friends from other universities comment on how safe they feel here."

Junior nursing major Natalie Nichols has also had personal experiences with Public Safety. She once had a flat tire, and the officers were there to help her contact AAA and stay until help arrived. Another time, Nichols was involved in an accident on campus. "I was able to go ahead and file a report for insurance purposes," she said. "It saved a lot of time and energy instead of contacting the police department."

The Department of Public Safety partnered with other campus organizations to promote Alcohol Awareness Month. They set up a drunk driving simulation on the Quad in attempts to increase interaction between staff and students. Students were invited to "drive while drunk" with a public safety officer. "We allowed students to wear special goggles that simulated the influence of alcohol and they then drove golf carts around a predetermined course," Coppage said.

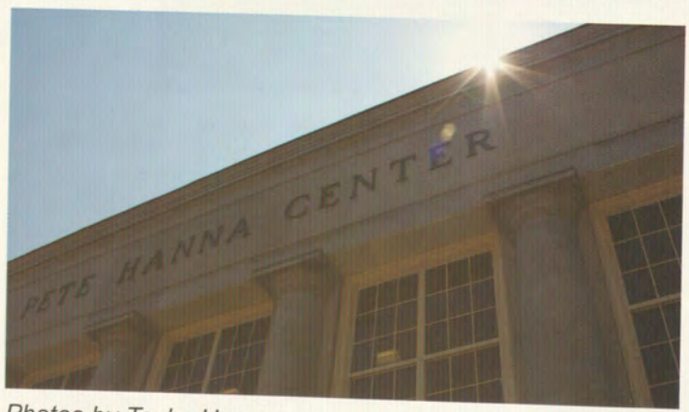
The officers in the Department of Public Safety wanted students to know that they exist to protect and assist them. "They can feel confident coming to us with different issues and we will do our best to address their problems. If we don't have the answer, we'll either find an answer or direct them to the right place," Gillian said. "We are proud to serve Samford University and we want to exceed expectations."

The number of incidents occurring on campus increased dramatically, but Mr. Coppage said he believed the increase in numbers was a result of the increased presence of Public Safety officers and the willingness of students to report problems. "We are trying to educate everyone, including faculty, staff and students that public safety is everyone's responsibility," Coppage said. "Not just the Department of Public Safety."

Top Left: Public Safety super heros proudly protect and watch over Samford as well as the city of Birmingham.
Photo by Katie Willis

Bottom Left: Freshman, Josh Tolman takes a crash course on the dangers of drunk driving.

Top Right: A public safety officer watches over as a student walks through obstacles with "drunk" goggles on.
Photos by Megan Scott



Photos by Taylor Horneman

Campus Rec

introduces new activities

by Molly Jones

Campus Recreation was always changing and evolving. Whether it was a new intramural sport or an aerobic exercise class, students could always find ways to be actively involved.

Campus Recreation provided many services to students on campus such as intramurals, aerobics, outdoor climbing and open recreations. Campus Rec also offered opportunities for work-study. About 100 students were employed through Campus Recreation.

Senior elementary education major Courtney Kelley worked in the Fitness/Wellness Center of the Pete Hanna Center. Kelley swiped cards, cleaned the fitness machines and answered calls and questions while on duty.

"I like working with Campus Rec because it gives me a chance to be on campus, which I don't get to do very often while I am student teaching, in a place where I run into friends and faces from campus often," Kelley said. "It also allows me to get paid not only while I do the work, but also get some of my schoolwork done as well. It's a great balance."

"It also allows me to get paid not only while I do the work, but also get some of my schoolwork done as well. It's a great balance."
Courtney Kelley

Senior marketing major Matt Galloway was an active participant in intramurals throughout his time as a Samford student. Galloway participated in dodge ball, tennis, ultimate frisbee and basketball intramurals.

"I love playing because it's fun hanging out with friends while playing the sports I love," Galloway said. "Having a fun team has always been worth more than having a good record."

Nick Madsen served his fourth year as the Director of Campus Recreation. Madsen served as the building coordinator for the Seibert Gym and Stadium, Bashinksy Fieldhouse, Pete Hanna Fitness Center, Intramural Field and the Bulldog soccer, baseball and softball fields. Madsen also had numerous other responsibilities which included monitoring equipment, coordinating student workers and advising the Club sports on Samford's campus.

When asked what he enjoyed most about his job, Madsen said, "Being around the great students that go to Samford and getting to know them and seeing how I can help them out, whether mentor, employ, play or recreate with them."

Campus Recreation is always looking for ways to improve and better itself. Just this year, quidditch was added as an intramural sport. This sport is based off of the Harry Potter novels by J.K. Rowling and the many students who enjoy these books are excited about this new opportunity.

During Homecoming week in November, Campus Rec also provided a paintball tournament for students on the intramural field. Many came out to enjoy this new event, which may become a homecoming tradition. Also, Campus Rec added a new recreation area across the street with more intramural soccer fields and beach volleyball courts for students.

Year in Review today

compiled by Craig Kleimeyer

August 4 2010 – British Petroleum announces the success of its "Static Kill" to plug the oil leak sprung on April 20. Crews began relief well drilling on August 8. BP had to deal with the aftermath of the largest oil spill in history in the Gulf of Mexico. More than 152 million gallons of oil was pulled from the Gulf, leaving around 53 million.

August 13-15 2010 – Floods consume large areas in Pakistan. On August 15, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon visits the area to survey the damage, saying that he had never seen anything like it before.

August 23 2010 – Professional golfer Tiger Woods, after a highly public separation, finalizes his divorce to his wife in Panama City, Florida.

August 27-29 2010 – Connections weekend for new Samford freshmen. Freshmen met other students, engaged with the campus, and settled in to their new home for the next four years.

August 30 – September 3 2010 – Classes begin on campus. Welcome Back Week.

September 10 2010 – In a long-awaited press conference, President Barack Obama addresses economic stimulus. In light of the recent BP oil spill and the conflict over an Islamic Center being built in New York City only two blocks away from Ground Zero, the issue had been pushed to the side.

September 30 2010 – Samford Theater presents opening night of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern.

October 1 2010 – Rahm Emanuel resigns his position as White House Chief of Staff to announce his candidacy for mayor of Chicago.

October 11 2010 – Windows Phone 7 is introduced to the consumer market, hoping to provide some stiff competition for the yet unmatched iPhone by Apple.

October 11-12 2010 – Fall Break.

October 13 2010 – 33 Chilean miners are pulled from a mine after being trapped for 68 days, the longest time on record for rescue.

October 16 2010 – Miss Samford 2010.

October 23 2010 – Masquerade Ball.

October 25 2010 – A tsunami and earthquake hit Sumatra, Indonesia. The earthquake registered a 7.5 on the Richter scale. Within twenty-four hours, the death toll reached 400 and steadily grew as rescue efforts increased.

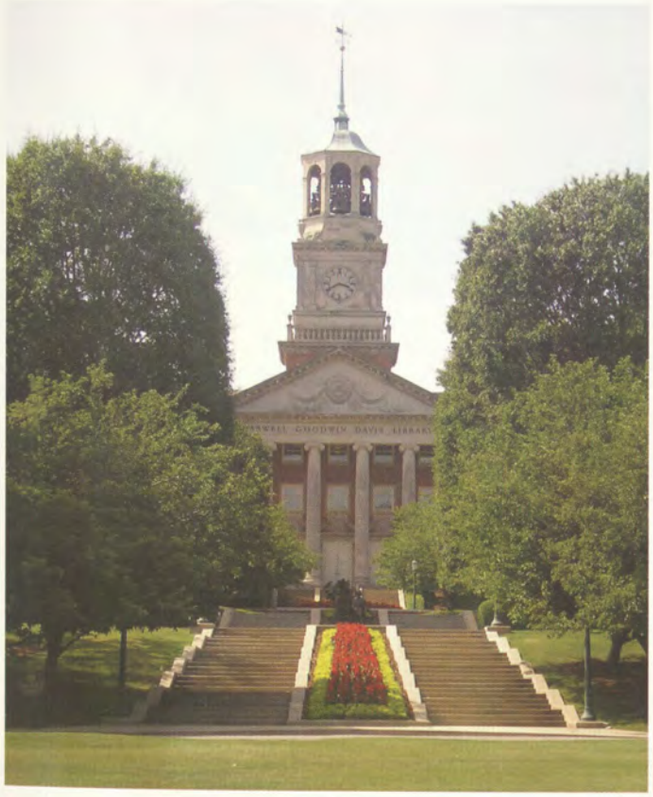
November 2010 – Student protests against tuition fees in the United Kingdom reach dangerous levels when a procession of masses hits the House of Commons and Prime Minister David Cameron's campaign headquarters.

November 16 2010 – Great Britain's Prince William announces his engagement to Kate Middleton.

November 18-20 2010 – Samford hosts the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.
November 24-26 2010 – Thanksgiving Break.

December 2 2010 – Samford's annual Lighting of the Way begins the Christmas season on campus.

Decemeber 13-16 2010 – Finals Weeks.



December 18 2010 – US Senate votes to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy regarding gay men and lesbian service in the military.

December 18 2010 – Fall Commencement.

January 7 2011 – North Korea initiates peace talks with South Korea after tensions rise to the highest level since the Korean War.

January 9 2011 – Jared Lee Loughner is charged with two counts of murder and three counts of attempted murder for his shooting in Tuscon, Arizona. Loughner was accused of attempting to assassinate Representative Gabrielle Giffords.

January 11 2011 – Verizon announces that it will carry the Apple iPhone.

January 23 2011 – Step Sing 2011 Banner Drop.

January 24 2011- Classes begin.

January 25 2011 – "Day of Rage" protest in Egypt begin against President Hosni Mubarak's authoritarian rule. These protests would lead to a severe drop in economic activity. It also led to the government taking extreme measures to silence the protest, including cutting Internet access and cell phone service across the nation on January 28. As the protests rose and became more violent, President Mubarak vowed not to take a second term on February 1.

February 10-12 2011 – Step Sing 2011.

February 11 2011 – Egyptian President Mubarak resigns and the military takes control of the country. The government agrees to eventually transfer power to a civilian government.

February 25 2011 – The White House announces new sanctions on war-ravaged Libya's government and abandoned its embassy in Tripoli temporarily. The conflict between the people and dictator Moammar Gadhafi steadily increases.

March 2 2011 – Loyalists to Gadhafi take offensive action against civilian rebels. A counterattack by Gadhafi forces is launched on March 8.

March 11 2011 – An 9.0 magnitude earthquake shook Japan, followed by a tsunami. The extent of the damage was nearly unimaginable, causing explosions at a nuclear power station and threatening the safety of those who survived the quake.

March 14-18 2011 – Spring Break.

March 23 2011 – Actress Elizabeth Taylor dies at age 79 of congestive heart failure.

March 31 2011 – Samford hosts Freshman Got Talent.

April 2 2011 – Hope for Japan Benefit Concert.
April 20 2011 – War photographers Tim Hetherington and Chris Hondros are killed in an explosion in Libya.

April 24 2011 – Easter.

April 29 2011 – Prince William of Britain marries Kate Middleton. They become the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the second in line to the throne.

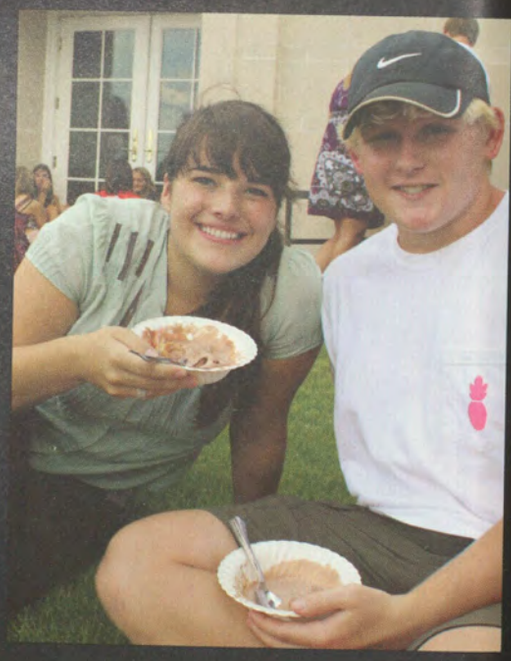
May 1 2011 – United States forces kill Osama Bin Laden , the leader of the devastating September 11, 2001 attacks, in a firefight in Pakistan.

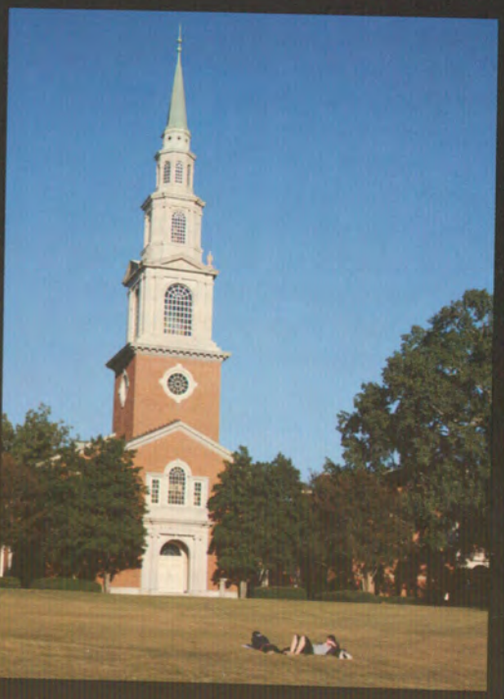
May 9-12 2011 – Final Exams.

May 13-14 – Spring Commencement.

Photo courtesy of Birmingham Real Estate

RED SEA
Samford University

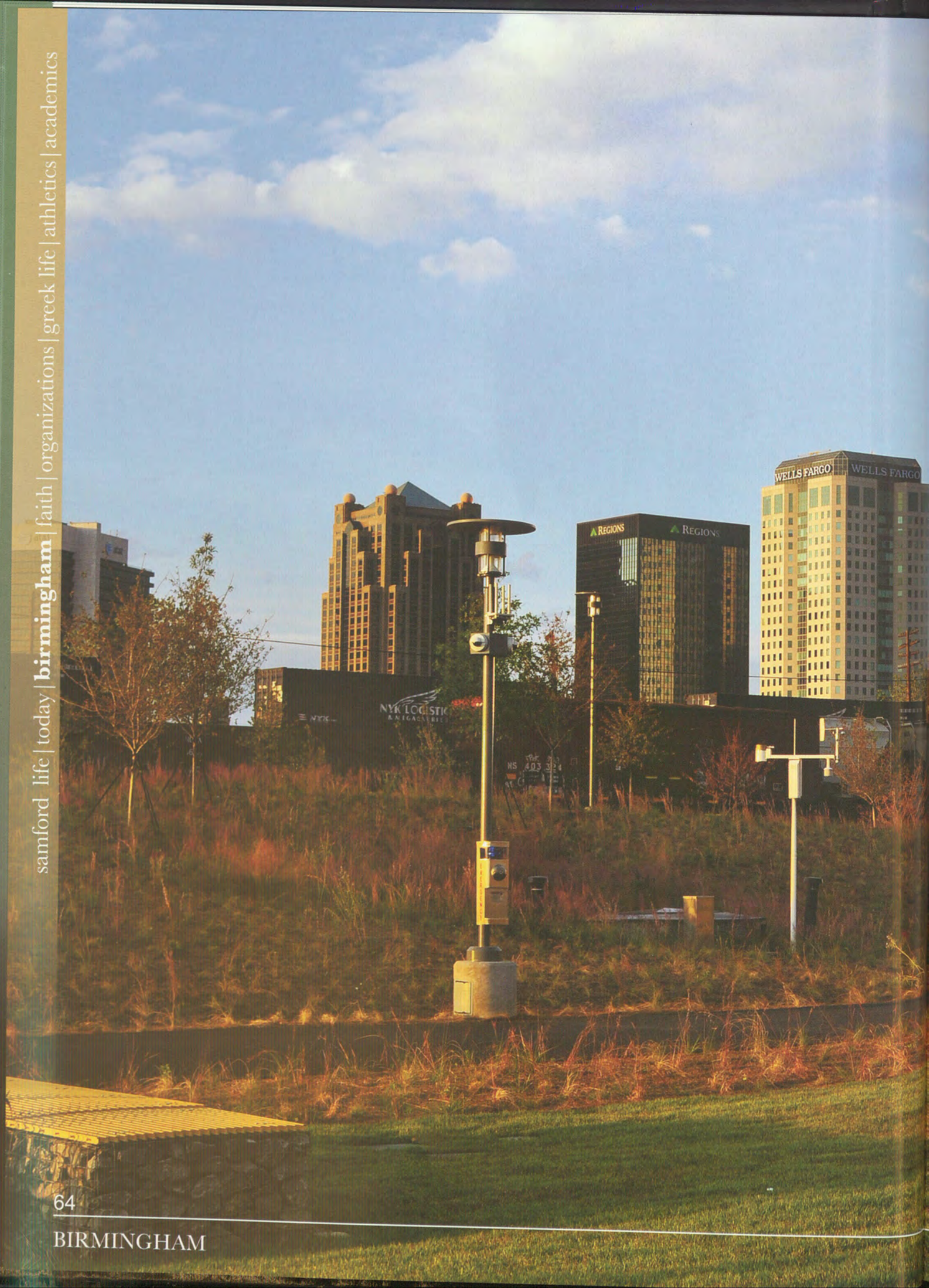




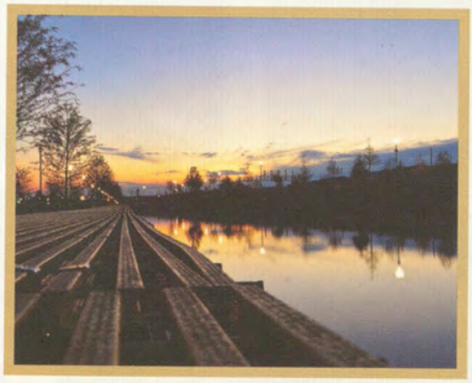
Top: April Fools Day brought about hundreds of pink flamingos that flocked the campus.
Photo by Tim Foote

Bottom Left: Luke Miller tells it like it is at a Freshmin meeting.
Photo by Tim Foote

Bottom Right: The Food Court offers a variety of freshly-made sandwiches and other treats.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson


WELLS FARGO
WELLS FARGO
REGIONS
REGIONS

Birmingham



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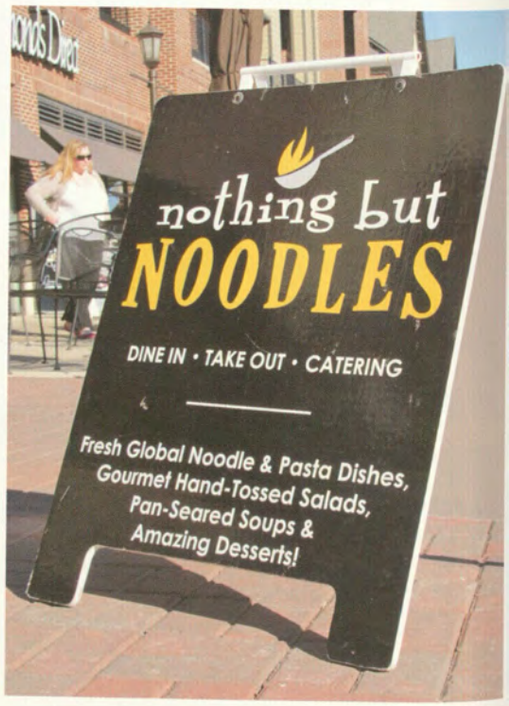
Entre Nous | Impact

YOGURT MOUNTAIN
Suite 120
store hours

NEWK'S
Express Café


nothing but
NOODLES
DINE IN • TAKE OUT • CATERING
Fresh Global Noodle & Pasta Dishes,
Gourmet Hand-Tossed Salads,
Pan-Seared Soups &
Amazing Desserts!

maki FRESH
SUSHI ROLLS & JAPANESE GRILL

Food *BEYOND* the Caf

by Hilliary Hallman

One of Birmingham's greatest attributes was its food selection. The "Magic City" was covered in restaurants, with some of the most favored places right outside Samford's gates. Many students liked to venture outside the Caf to enjoy the atmosphere of nearby restaurants.

Iguana Grill, located off Lorna Road, was a Samford hot spot. It was also a popular birthday party setting because of the festive tradition of yelling, singing, banging pans and whipped cream to the face by the friendly waiters.

"It's a great place for large groups to go to, it's affordable, and it's the Disney World of Mexican restaurants," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Megan Beavers said.

Mexican restaurants were favored among Samford students. "I like Chuy's, because it offers authentic Mexican cuisine in a fun and vibrant atmosphere. The service of the friendly waiters and waitresses cannot be beat," sophomore psychology major Liz Findley said. "Everyone must experience this unique, one-of-a-kind restaurant. Plus, it has a breath-taking view overlooking Birmingham and the Summit area."

Another favorite was the new Flip Burger Boutique. It offered a modern way to dine. The contemporary décor gave the white-colored restaurant a space-age feel. Besides the phenomenal burgers, the unique milkshakes were deadly. Flip Burger served wacky flavored milkshakes mixed with nitrogen to give the treats a cool, smoky effect.

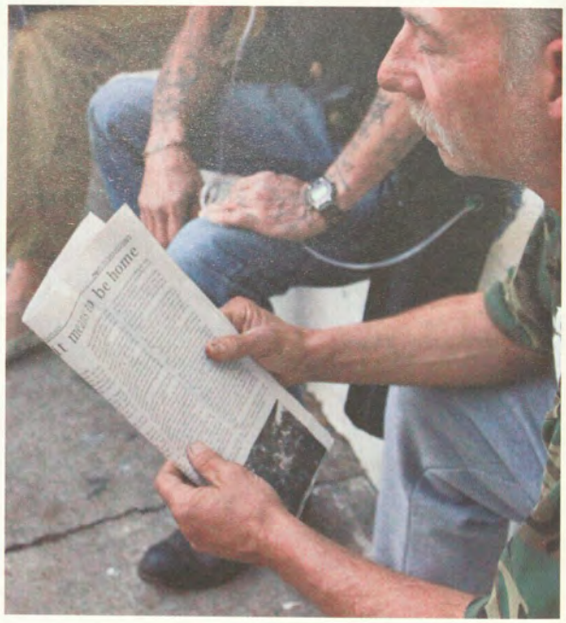
Some students liked the convenience of the in-and-out deli restaurants. Some of the most popular eateries were Zoe's, Jason's Deli, O'Carr's and Newk's. "My favorite restaurant in Birmingham would have to be Momma Goldberg's because of the food, the atmosphere and the location," sophomore pre-pharmacy major Leanne Justice said. "Along with the great food, there are great prices. And being so close to school, makes it the perfect lunch or dinner with friends."

Homewood was full of quaint, urban restaurants, but one that was always preferential was the extraordinary Jackson's Bistro. It offered inexpensive American cuisine with an upscale and downtown atmosphere. Students were drawn to its inviting atmosphere and the cookie dough egg rolls. Jackson's cookie dough egg rolls were so unique and scrumptious that some students went simply for the dessert. The SOHO area in Homewood also offered new places like Lovoy's and Urban Cookhouse, where you could also find many students hanging out with friends.

The most popular and beloved dining places were the new yogurt shops that swept the city within a very short time period. The grandfather yogurt shop, Yogurt Mountain, was a favorite to all Samford students. Places like Yogurt Lab, Tutti Frutti and 32° were established and, just like "YoMo," flourished tremendously. Yogurt Mountain even opened a second location in Hoover to support the over-flow of customers.

"Yogurt Mountain was my first love. Therefore, it still has my heart," sophomore nursing major Jill Newland said.

Being a prominent southern city, Birmingham offered a wide range of dining options. Students were given so many opportunities to become closer through food. Eating was the best and most traditional way to socialize and bond with family and friends, which is how most students became a part of both the Samford and Birmingham communities.



the *Moving* picture of worship in Birmingham

by Lauren Kostoff

One of the biggest and most challenging changes facing college students was finding a new home church in their new environment. Birmingham certainly had a lot of options for churches. But among all of these choices, students managed to find church homes that offered a place to worship and to learn about God as well as a variety of opportunities to worship outwardly through service and involvement. Countless students found places where they spent their Sunday mornings, but these places also inspired and motivated them to get involved in their church, in the Birmingham community and beyond.

"I have seen the gospel in action, and I am part of community that is the hands and feet of Christ, and I wouldn't have it any other way," sophomore journalism and mass communication major Jake Davis said about Mosaic Church's ministry, "Kaleber."

Kaleber's purpose was to serve Birmingham's "houseless" community by bringing them food and scripture each week. Davis explained that churchgoers Austin Richardson and Hunter Davis had a heart for the houseless and started this ministry in order to reach people who are not normally reached.

"Mosaic is a community dying to take action to save the dying souls around them. The houseless are hungry. Not just physically. They are hungry for love and attention. They desire a life of satisfaction. Mosaic knows that only Christ can fulfill these desires," Davis said. He clearly did not just found a location for worship, but discovered a new way of worshipping at Mosaic.

While Mosaic challenged Davis to reach out into the Birmingham community, The Church at Brook Hills challenged Samford students to get involved in their church community. One way Brook Hills provided this opportunity to get plugged in is

Top Left: Pictured here is a Samford student sharing the gospel with two homeless men in Birmingham.

Top Right: One of the men takes a gander at Samford's daily newspaper, The Crimson. *Photos by Catrin Williams*

through community groups. These Bible study groups ranged in age and study, and were a great way for Samford students to not only get involved in their church community, but to gain encouragement and accountability through their study's members.

"Getting plugged in really does take a small effort but it is worth it. Don't just attend church on Sunday mornings: become a part of the living, changing Body of Christ," junior communication studies major Jenn Debrecht said.

Debrecht has gotten involved over the past two years at Brook Hills through Bible study groups. Her sophomore year she led an eighth grade girls Bible study and continued the study this school year with the same girls.

"Through my own small group, I've connected with families at Brook Hills that really care about what's going on in my life and are serious about discipling me and others. Each time I am invited over to their homes for a meal or hang out with them, I am reminded of the body of Christ at work—a body that is bringing the gospel to all nations. Working with my now ninth grade girls has been so much fun. They have deep questions about the word. Seeing their passion to know God better encourages and challenges me," Debrecht said.

Prior to her involvement with small groups, Jenn said she attended Brook Hills but just went on Sundays for service and was not necessarily intentional about getting plugged in. Debrecht enriched her worship experience and gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a part of the Body of Christ because she took advantage of the awesome opportunities at Brook Hills.

At Shades Mountain Baptist Church, sophomore elementary education major Anna Leigh Marshall got involved in a special ministry. The Hand in Hand ministry at Shades Mountain served special needs children. This ministry provided Marshall with a unique and special opportunity to serve both God and her church community. The volunteers were with the kids throughout the worship service each Sunday.

"I really chose to get involved because I decided I really wanted to get plugged in at Shades Mountain and truly felt like this was a wonderful place to start getting involved in the ministries they offer," Marshall said.

Choosing from so many churches in Birmingham could seem overwhelming at first, but at the end of the day, so many churches were actively encouraging and enhancing worship for their church goers. Whether it was Mosaic Church, The Church at Brook Hills, Shades Mountain Baptist Church, or any of the other churches in Birmingham, being a part of a community of believers was incredibly rewarding.

hitting the BOOKS in the *ham*

by Mckenzie Masters

Although the Davis Library was probably one of the busiest places on campus, students still ventured out into the city in search of the perfect study space. Ask any student what they looked for in this endeavor, and the answer will almost always be the same: coffee, free Wi-Fi and a comfortable atmosphere. Birmingham did not hold back when providing study places for its college residents. Samford students took advantage of the city's size and found their study niche among a variety of coffeehouses, bookstores and community resources.

Mountain Brook Community Church not only hosted University Christian Fellowship this year, but it also provided a study outlet. The UCF House's purpose was to foster faith, encourage the arts and build community. In addition to study space, the UCF House offered laundry facilities, a prayer room and foosball for those much-needed study breaks. With convenient hours and easy accessibility, the UCF House was a favorite study spot.

Perhaps the most popular study spot this year was O'Henry's. Whether in downtown Homewood, on campus or its newest location down the street, O'Henry's provided the atmosphere and caffeine for intense study sessions.

"I enjoy studying at O'Henry's over in the Brookwood Mall area," Joanna Hass, a senior nursing major, said. "I love the delicious drinks, coffee smells, booths to sit in, an upstairs for more serious studying and an outdoor area to study in when it's warm."

Another option for students was the Hoover Public Library. This library was a familiar meeting place and provided helpful resources for research.

"They've got a coffee shop with big, comfy couches, Wi-Fi, and then they also have quiet study areas with portals like at our library, which is good for me," senior biology major Katie Carroll said. The coffee shop, Coffee-ol-ogy, is the longest running public library coffee café in the country, and serves sandwiches, soups and baked goods for study fuel.

Panera Bread equipped students with a comfortable atmosphere and catered to students' needs. "It provides access to Wi-Fi, comfortable seating, as well as a variety of food if I get hungry," Hiba Matalka, a senior nutrition major, said. With four locations around town, Panera Bread was a cozy, quiet place to look over some notes or meet up with a study buddy.

Barnes and Noble was no stranger to the study world this year. College students across the city flocked to the popular bookstore. It offered convenient study locations on both sides of Samford at Patton Creek and The Summit. The café area included Starbucks coffee, personal tables and other reading material for research or a study break.

"There's usually other students there studying, so the environment is usually encouraging," Matalka said.

Whether students were studying in groups or independently, Birmingham provided students convenient outlets to dive deeper into their academic studies. Each location equipped Samford students with the resources needed to learn and develop an education like no other.

Left: Sophomore Stevi Sappenfield takes a break from the library studies at Whole Foods, located on 280.

Above: Students agree that the local Birmingham Library is a great place to change the scenery and be able to focus on class work.
Photos by Katy Flinn

Hopping Shopping spots

by Elizabeth Cassada

Fortunately, for those striving to keep up with the latest trends or searching for something fun to do, Samford students had a plethora of shopping venues in Birmingham. According to the website of the Greater Birmingham Convention Center & Visitors Bureau, "Without question, Birmingham is the unrivaled retail giant of Alabama." From major malls and chic boutiques to stores selling rare books or vintage records, Birmingham had everything students needed.

As usual, Birmingham's several shopping centers attracted many college students. Much of the student body traversed the most popular malls: the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover, The Summit on U.S. Highway 280 and Colonial Brookwood Village on Shades Creek Parkway. For Angela Duke, a junior marketing major, the Galleria was an excellent avenue for thrifty but trendy finds.

"I love J. Crew, and they usually have a great sale section, which is always a plus for college students," Duke said. "Lotus Boutique is a great place to find really cute and inexpensive clothes as well."

Students often visited The Summit, a massive outdoor shopping center packed with places to shop. Students spent hours exploring the various stores within The Summit's extensive property. This shopping center presented students with everything from high-end apparel at Saks Fifth Avenue to designer handbags from Coach to an eclectic mix of gifts and trinkets at Swoozie's. Students browsed the shelves of Barnes & Noble for new books, searched for makeup at Sephora, or meandered over to the Carmike Summit 16 movie theater.

Charming Charlie, a new store that opened at the Summit last year, drew in much of the University's female population with its sparkling array of accessories.

"It is very reasonably priced and you can easily find whatever type of accessory you need," freshman pre-pharmacy major McKenzie Harrison said. "It is all color-coded and they have everything."

Students also traveled to Brookwood Village, a smaller mall conveniently located mere minutes from Samford. Lydia Smith, a junior interior design major, worked at Ann Taylor LOFT in Brookwood this year. "I love working in a major store and shopping center because there are always so many people coming and going and it keeps the work environment exciting," she said. "It also makes going to other stores at the mall convenient."

Several of the stores in these three malls also offered student discounts.

"LOFT offers a college student discount of 15 percent," Smith said. "I also know that J. Crew and Banana Republic offer student discounts."

But seasoned shoppers knew that possibilities were not limited to the well-known and frequently visited malls. Instead, some students sifted through the ordinary to unearth the true gems of Birmingham that were nestled away in more obscure shopping districts.

In downtown Homewood, students discovered a delightful smattering of shops carrying items that could not be found everywhere. Shoppers could peruse the

shoes, accessories and clothing in the various slightly pricey boutiques, including Shoefly, Theodora, AKA Girl Stuff, Doree and Soca Clothing. Customers had fun browsing through furniture stores like Soho Retro and At Home Furnishings, toy stores like Homewood Toy and Hobby Shop or the highly unique White Flowers Gallery, where everything was white, ethereal and serene.

Students also enjoyed exploring Mountain Brook, another area filled with plenty of pleasant places to spend money. Mountain Brook Village, English Village and Crestline Village offered a variety of shopping venues. Erin McGuire, a junior marketing major, said Mountain Brook was her favorite place to shop. "Mountain Brook has a great environment," McGuire said. "You get the whole experience of enjoying the quaint atmosphere coupled with discovering unique clothes."

Downtown Birmingham was also a fun place to explore. Students seeking an uncommon shopping experience went to places like Reed Books, a rare-book loft on Third Avenue North, or Charlemagne Record Exchange near Five Points South, which has stacks of vintage records, old video-cassette tapes, band posters and a charming back-in-time atmosphere. Students sometimes spent afternoons poking around Pepper Place, a beautiful historic district downtown with a wide variety of stores that "satisfies Birmingham's thirst for the imaginative with a unique shopping experience," according to the Birmingham Visitors Bureau's website.
With all these hopping shopping hotspots, shopping in Birmingham was truly an exciting experience.

Top: The Summit on HWY 280 provides an array of different shopping areas and a delightful atmosphere to enjoy them in.

Bottom: Mountain High Outfitters offers almost anything an outdoorsy college student could want. *Photos by Katy Flinn*

Exploring
the magic city

by Christopher Davis

Birmingham was an amazing city with all kinds of unique stores students could visit and enjoy. It was a diverse city, which meant that, no matter where you were from, you could find want you needed here in Birmingham.

The Apple Store at the Summit was very popular, since most students owned at least one of its products. Students went to buy new products such as a Mac or iPod nano, iPad or iPod touch. If students had any technical problems with a product, they could visit the Apple Store to get their gadgets fixed. Some students even stopped by just to hang out and play with some of the latest technology. Students that were into the Apple fad would visit the Apple store to see the latest products.

Junior philosophy and Spanish double major Tyler Clardy enjoyed going to Five Points, a small area with a variety of upscale stores and restaurants in downtown Birmingham. "I enjoy Five Points because of the atmosphere and the different stuff that's around," he said. Five Points was a great place to go for a special occasion or a fun Friday night out on the town.

The Carmike 10 movie theater in Hoover was a great place for students to watch movies during free time. At the "dollar theater," students could watch a movie for one dollar. Students could see movies that were no longer in regular theaters. If students missed a movie they wanted to see, they had a second chance to see it at a cheaper price.

Sophomore pre-business major Chase Carroll recommended students visit Mountain High Outfitters to supply all of their outdoor activity needs. "Mountain Outfitters is the only store that has quality outdoors equipment and clothes," he said. Students who enjoyed camping, hiking or kayaking would visit Mountain Outfitters.

One place to spend that time outdoors was the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. The Botanical Gardens had a variety of unique flowers and trees. Many students enjoyed walking the trails. They could visit any time of year and have a wonderful experience with nature. Students interested in flowers would visit Botanical Gardens to enjoy the gorgeous scenery.

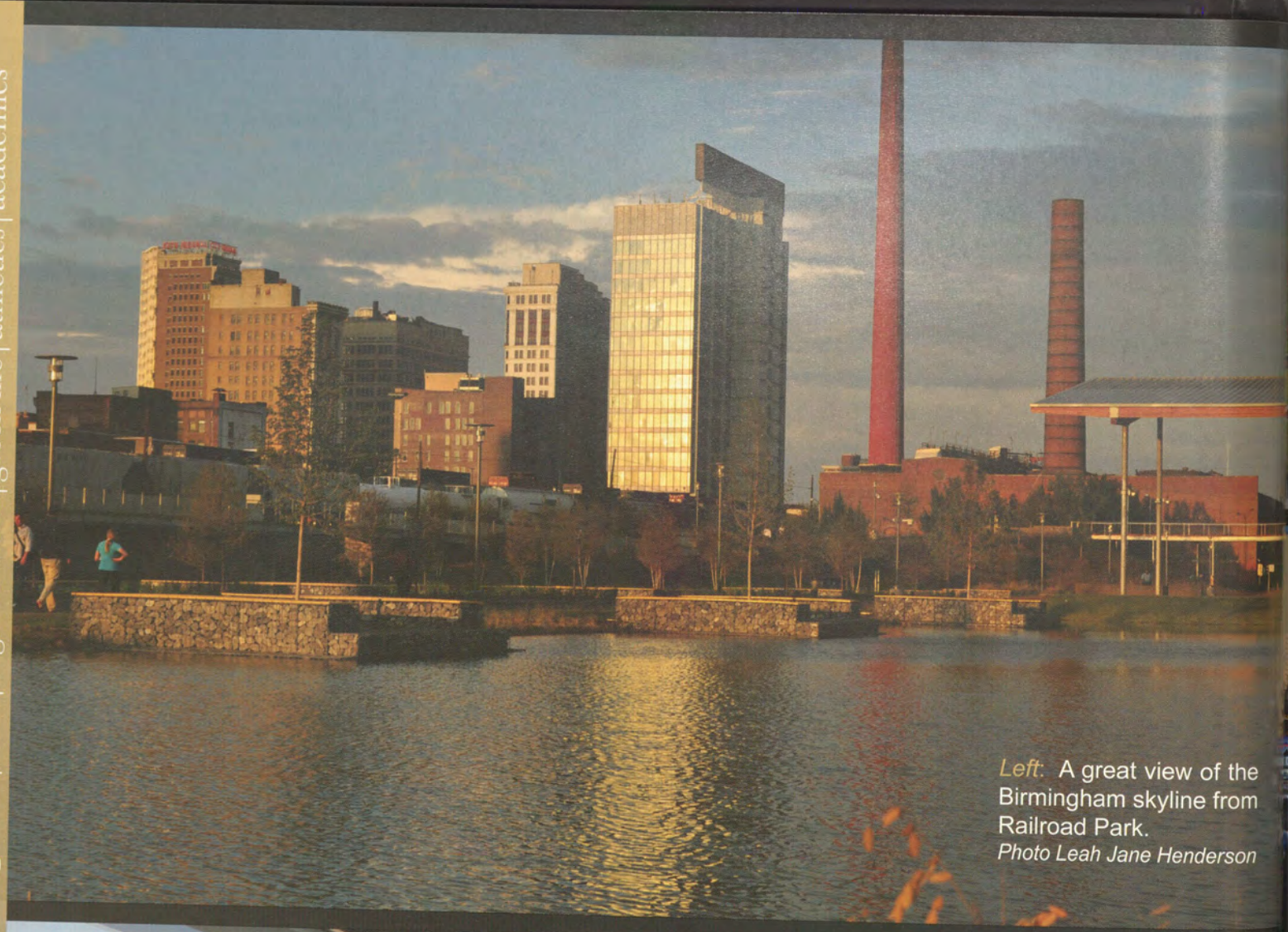
For music and entertainment, senior accounting major Sam Dickerson loved visiting Zydeco. Students with a creative side visited Zydeco, to listen to unique bands play awesome music. Dickerson said, "Zydeco brings good bands. It is good music to dance to and it's cheap for only ten dollars." Many students also enjoyed concerts at Workplay, historic Sloss Furnace, and the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex.

The city of Birmingham had a variety of places for students to explore. Students could go to computer stores, movie theaters and flower gardens. In Birmingham there was a place for everyone; all students could find a place that they enjoyed.

Top and Bottom Left: Five Points South offers culture. life, and a more eclectic side of Birmingham.

Top and Bottom Right: Samford students, especially, cannot wait until Spring to visit the Botanical Gardens.

Middle Left and Right: The Summit, located on HWY 280, is one of the icons of the Homewood area, which offers a fantastic range of shops.
Photos by Katy Flinn



Left: A great view of the Birmingham skyline from Railroad Park.
Photo Leah Jane Henderson

Bottom Left: Cool shops like Swank are located in Soho Square in Homewood.

Bottom Middle: Stevi Sappenfield studies at Whole Foods, located on HWY 280.

Middle Right: The Five Points fountain is one of the icons of Birmingham.

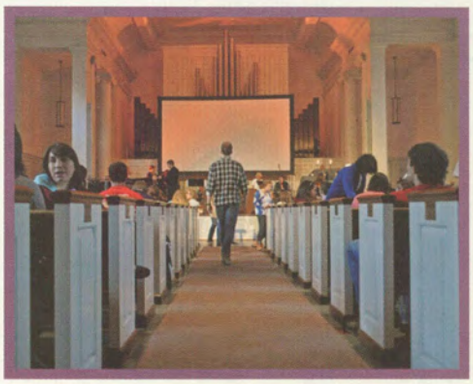
Bottom Right: Samford students frequent Newk's, Nothing bu Noodles, and Maki Fresh.
Photos by Katy Flinn

20TH ST. SOUTH

patagonia

nothing but NOODLES
SUSHI ROLLS & JAPANESE

Faith



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Entre Nous | Impact

How has Samford helped you *grow* in your faith?

"Being surrounded by said "Christians" on a day to day basis has made me want to grow spiritually and rise above the normal Christian faith."
Laura Sarrett – senior athletic training major

"Here at Samford I have the access to friends that encourage and a sense of community that I never had in high school."
Laura Wellen – freshman undeclared major

"The majority of Samford's campus is surrounded with similar beliefs, but I feel like there is a big enough difference for me to distinguish my faith and grow individually."
Grant Frederick - freshman church music major

"Teachers and administers here at Samford have introduced enough new ideas for me to determine my own ideas and beliefs."
Jay Jasper – freshman instrumental music major

"Campus programs such as Shiloh, Campus Outreach, and University Ministries have given me the opportunity to grow in my faith individually."
Megan Dunn - freshman elementary education major

"Samford has helped me grow in faith because I feel like it was never forced upon me. There's a diversity here that truly allows you the space to make your own decisions, allowing you to have a more intimate relationship with Christ due to the personal decisions Samford allows you to make"
David Anderson - sophomore nursing major

"I really enjoy Shiloh, it is a great worship experience in the middle of the week to fuel me for the rest of the week spiritually."
Allie Craubert - freshman journalism and mass communication major

"I went to a huge public high school so the transition here to Samford, a smaller school, was exciting. Having friends who are looking to encourage you for the better is something that has helped me grow in my faith."
Carly Cate – freshman elementary education major

"Samford has helped me grow in my faith by challenging me to make my faith my own. Being surrounded by unbelievable friends that constantly challenge me to grow deeper is also a quality that has helped my faith continue to develop. Samford has played a huge role in growing my faith to the place it is at today."
Will Cohen – junior sports administration major

"First and foremost, I have been able to find a great group of like-minded brothers that encourage me and keep me accountable. Secondly, the university has created an atmosphere that encourages differences of opinion and debate among beliefs, but combines that with strong Christian support in multiple areas. Therefore, my belief set has been challenged during my journey here, but I am now able to hold my convictions much more boldly as I have understood and taken ownership of my beliefs."
Jake Albert - sophomore exercise science major

Shiloh

A Worship Gathering

University Ministries offered several opportunities for students to grow in their faith this year. One of these was Shiloh, a weekly worship gathering for students to engage God through art, music, Scripture, communion and reflection.

Shiloh invited students to experience worship in a way that they could engage God with their hearts, souls, minds and strength.

This year, Shiloh relocated to Reid Chapel unlike its previous years in Hodges Chapel.

Shiloh's theme for the fall semester was The Challenge of the Disciplined Life: Conversations about Money, Sex and Power. Through worship, Shiloh discussed topics like purity, worship and Richard Foster's book, The Challenge of the Disciplined Life.

Each Shiloh service began with a common meal on the quad, which allowed students a time to gather with others and prepare for worship. Various organizations in the community supplied food for students each Tuesday until fall break, when it was replaced by common dessert.

"My favorite part about Shiloh would have to be the worship because it is period of time when I can have one-on-one time with God," Julianne Murphy, a sophomore education major, said. "My experience this year has been one that I have heard Him speak to me through Shiloh's form of worship, and I am truly blessed by it."

In addition to the Tuesday night service, Shiloh also offered Shiloh Groups. These groups of five to seven people met regularly after Shiloh to discuss and apply the sermon in a deeper, more personable way.

"This year, Shiloh groups are only a subcategory of the small groups that UM is offering," Anna Wilgus, a senior religion major and UM spiritual formation coordinator, said. "We have broadened the topics to encompass more than just Shiloh content to allow students who choose other campus worship services or do not attend Shiloh to still be plugged into a small group through University Ministries."

Missions

Reflecting on God's work around the world

by Rachel Freeny

Learning to trust God in South Africa

Sophomore political science major Shelby Mathews spent part of her summer in Capetown, South Africa working with local kids and teens, along with 15 other students from Shades Mountain Baptist Church. During the two-week trip, the students held vacation Bible schools and worked in a hospital in Capetown.

Mathews said one of her favorite parts of the trip was getting to know the children and building relationships with them. She said it was incredible to see what a difference simply playing soccer with the children made. "They are just so talented, and I loved seeing how carefree they were and not worrying about the circumstances that they were living in," she said.

Overall, Mathews said her time in South Africa changed her perspective and taught her the importance of missions.

"In college you're trying to figure yourself out and trying to trust God to put you on the right path," she said. "A mission trip really helps you to get on that path because it puts everything into perspective and teaches you to trust God and put everything in his hands."

Building relationships in Mexico

While Mathews was in South Africa, junior nursing major Julianne Boone was serving the Lord in Mexico. Boone spent her summer studying abroad in the city of Guanajuatl. While there, she lived with a pastor's family. When she was not in class, she helped out with the youth group and spent time evangelizing.

Boone said that the relationships she built with the youth were not hindered by a language or cultural barrier. "I felt like I had been best friends with them for ten years,

but we had just known each other for a couple of weeks," she said.

Boone said that God gave her the strength and the courage to share the gospel on the streets of Guanajuatl, which was something she had been nervous about doing. Her experience affirmed her belief that all Christians are called to share the gospel.

"Because we claim to be a Christian school, it would be cool to see what a population of 4,500 people could do if they really lived by the faith that the Bible calls us to live by," Boone said.

Spreading God's love in Kazakhstan

Like Boone, sophomore nutrition major Hannah Hardin saw cultural barriers brought down during a mission trip to Almaty, Kazakhstan this summer. Hardin journeyed to the Middle East with a small group from her home church in Memphis, Tenn.

The group spent the first week leading an English as a second language camp in order to make connections and form relationships with the teens. They led a group of more than 100 students at the camp, and they spent the days playing games, hiking and holding worship services at night. "Some kids refused to listen to the gospel because they were Muslim," she said. "Some would accept Christ, but many were torn between what they believed and what their family believed."

Hardin said that being pushed out of her comfort zone helped her grow spiritually.

"I think it's good to experience something outside yourself and outside your normal routine, something that's bigger than you," she said. "The things you experience through missions will change your life and change the way you look at things on a daily basis."

Top Left: Senior Brittany Johnson gathers with her class on her mission trip to Vietnam.

Above: Brittany's students take a break during the school day for storytime.

Photos by Brittany Johnson

University Ministries

seeks to unify the campus *spiritually*

by Rachel Freeny

When Kathy Meriwether, a senior psychology major, stepped on to Samford's campus three years ago, she was completely overwhelmed. She was hundreds of miles from her home, friends and family in Texas.

"I didn't know anyone and was kind of clueless," Meriwether said.

Thankfully, she said, she found friendship and community in University Ministries.

"I had many upperclassmen pour into me and help me with that transitional time," she said.

As a senior, Meriwether became the co-freshman ministries coordinator for UM. She credited her passion for working with freshmen to the upperclassmen who invested in her life when she was a freshman.

Like Meriwether, sophomore journalism and mass communication major Jake Albert found a welcoming community in UM. "I've always starved for real people and real relationships," he said. "These are people that because of their authenticity force you to ask some of the hard questions."

Albert, the art and media coordinator for UM, was also looking for a place to use his creative talents.

"I didn't really have an outlet or a way to share my creativity, to allow my art to have an impact," he said. "I like having a place where I know my art is accepted."

Meriwether and Albert were just two students who found a way to use their talents to serve the Lord through UM. With six other committees including Social Justice, Spiritual Formation, Community Involvement, Worship, Global Involvement and Communications, UM was a gateway for

anyone and everyone to get involved and use their gifts.

"No matter how you feel called, there's a way that's going to let you do that to your best ability," senior English major Jen Taylor said. Jen served as the president for UM.

To get more students involved, Taylor hoped to spread the word about UM's opportunities.

"I want to see UM be able to reach all the different groups on campus and not make it look like it's just for one person," she said. "We want to make sure people know that everyone can come."

In order to achieve this goal, council members worked to unify the different ministries on campus. Small groups and spiritual leaders from all over campus met for a time of prayer and discipleship on Thursday mornings. These meetings were a great opportunity to learn about what is going on spiritually across campus. It was also an opportunity for leaders to encourage one another in their work on campus.

The council has also changed the structure of small groups. In past years, the groups were called "Shiloh groups," and students met to discuss each week's Shiloh service. This year, however, each group studied a different topic decided on by those in the group. The groups were more open to anyone on campus, senior religion major and spiritual formation coordinator Anna Wilgus said.

"The mission of UM is to love God, love people and change the world," Jake Albert said. "I think what we're realizing is that it's very difficult to do that with an exclusivity. It's so much easier to accomplish the task when you have a unified body of believers."

"The mission of UM is to love God, love people and change the world,"
Jake Albert

Left: Tim Foote and Rebecca Price are involved with Freshmin, the freshman ministry for UM. Photo by Jane Marie Hutcheson

Top: The student leaders of UM strike a pose outside A. H. Reid Chapel. Photo by Tim Tapscott

Bottom Right: Anna Leigh Marshall, Drew Hall and Cameron Collins hangout at Shiloh, the worship created by UM. Photo Jane Marie Hutcheson

Top: Students tune in to a talk at an RUF meeting in the Flag Colonnade.

Right: RUF campus minister Jason Sterling has a good time on a swing.

Photos by Rachel Freeny

Bottom Left: Emily Page and other RUF attendees get together for some fun.

Spiritual Formation through RUF

by Cara Beasley

Reformed University Fellowship

With its ninth year on campus, Reformed University Fellowship offered students a place to gather and worship together. RUF aimed to minister to college students by cultivating relationships among students who had a love for others, a heart for service and a desire for intimacy with Christ. Although RUF is a campus ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America, this ministry was open to students of all walks of life and religious backgrounds.

"RUF is a great ministry on campus that helps connect Samford students to Christ and equip them with a better understanding of the Bible's teachings," Suzanne Emery, a senior nutrition major said. "It is a ministry that welcomes all people, no matter where they are in their walk with the Lord."

Each week, students gathered for Large Group in the Flag Colonnade for a time of worship and Bible study led by Jason Sterling, the Samford RUF campus minister. Students examined a theme or topic and discovered God's direction through Scripture.

In addition to Large Group on Monday nights, RUF offered Bible studies in small group settings. Students had the opportunity to get plugged into small groups for freshmen, upperclassmen, women and men, which allowed students a time for deep discussion and fellowship.

RUF also aimed to reach out to the community through volunteer work, not only in the Birmingham area, but also throughout the country.

"Serving food at Jimmie Hale Mission, helping with construction work at a church in Miami on a mission trip and assisting other local ministries are just a few of the many ways that RUF is able to share Christ's love with the community," Emery said.

Highlights of fellowship opportunities this year included a dating game competition, intramurals, a guys' barbeque tour around the city, bonfires and a Christmas party.

Top Left: Campus Outreach staff member Ryan Akers gives a talk at a meeting during the spring semester.

Top Right: Freshmen Evann Rowland, Caroline Yeager and Allison Kelly smile as they wait for worship to begin.

Middle: Students worship the Lord through singing at a Campus Outreach meeting.
Photos by Jane Marie Hutcheson

Bottom Left: Campus Outreach staff member Matt Francisco leads worship with a student.
Photos by Katelyn Snow

Campus Outreach

creates community through **worship** and **discipleship**

by Susan Hamm

Campus Outreach was committed to building disciples on the University's campus in order to reach the lost world. By focusing primarily on evangelism and discipleship, Campus Outreach worked on building community and served others both on and off-campus. The ministry strived to reach lost students with the Gospel, build young Christians into mature followers of Christ, equip these students for life and ministry, and send them out to disciple in the world. In short, the goal of Campus Outreach was to teach students how to grow in their relationships with the Lord and equip them to share their faith with others. Many students attended the weekly worship gathering on Wednesday nights in Harry's Coffeeshouse, and the sounds of their praises filled the University Center.

Campus Outreach's Summer Beach Project was popular as it was in the past. This event allowed students to spend their summer in a resort city serving the communities instead of the usual summer holiday. Students typically work long hours in jobs that they might not ordinarily work in order to reach souls that might not typically be reached.

Junior journalism and mass communication major Craig Kleimeyer participated in Summer Beach Project the summer after her freshman year, and she said it led her to attend Campus Outreach regularly.

"I loved the summer I spent with Campus Outreach in Ft. Walton Beach. I worked at Fudpuckers, one of the most popular restaurants in Destin, and I was amazed to see that some of my fellow employees had different religious beliefs, which gave me a good picture of the real world," she said. "Learning how to share my faith was so encouraging, and seeing the impact that CO wants to have on Samford students and on the world made me want to get more involved."

Senior art major Lauren Bosley discovered Campus Outreach as the place to dedicate her leadership skills and services. "Since getting involved my sophomore year, I have been on the leadership team and have gone on two summer beach projects," she said. "I look forward to going on my third this summer."

"In my opinion, Campus Outreach benefits the greater good of Samford by providing a ministry on campus for personal spiritual growth as well as encouraging spiritual growth among your peers," Bosley said.

With so many ministry opportunities in the Birmingham area, it might seem that there is redundancy or even discord between the groups. But that was not the case. Campus Director for Campus Outreach Ryan Akers saw this ministry as a cooperative effort with other ministries on campus and in the area. "Each ministry seems to have a different niche in which they fit. Whether it's appealing to different groups of people on campus or having a different way in which they go about ministry, each campus ministry at Samford is unique," Akers said. The leaders of the ministries make a point to join together and pray for each other on a regular basis.

"More than anything, Campus Outreach has given me is a heart to know God and make Him known," Bosley said.

UCF & YL

not your typical youth group

by Sarah Waller

University Christian Fellowship is "not your typical college youth group," Catherine Kiser, a sophomore English major, said. With a smaller group and a new location, UCF created an atmosphere that made studying and worshiping God an intimate experience.

The UCF worship services took place every Wednesday night in the UCF House at Mountain Brook Community Church. Led by Andy Byers, the college pastor for the church and director of UCF, the worship services were broken down into sermon series, each lasting a month. Sermon series included titles like "The Gospel Upside Down" and "Media and the Gospel."

"I love going to UCF because the worship is in-depth and sound teaching," Kiser said.

"I love going to UCF because the worship is in-depth and sound teaching"
Catherine Kiser

New this year was the addition of At Table, a common meal shared on the fourth Wednesday of a sermon series. At Table represents how in the old times, people would gather for a meal and discuss issues. For UCF, the common meal was a time for students to reflect upon the topic that had been preached about. It gave them a time for clarity and further questioning.

Along with the worship services, UCF provided an even more intimate setting for worship through UCF small groups. Groups were spilt up, sometimes by gender or university, and people were free to sign up for which ever one they wanted. Julie Barr, a sophomore history major, said she attended a co-ed small group that met at the UCF house with students from schools all over the Birmingham area.

"We talked about how we are emerging adults in transition. Being in the group opened my eyes to ideas I had never thought about, like living a life separate from the world's standards," Barr said.

YoungLife and WyldLife

On a different side of town, with a much younger group of kids, Samford students went outside the camps bubble to help middle and high school students find their own intimate relationships with God.

Wyldlife is the YoungLife program targeted for middle school students. College students wanting to be a WyldLife leader must go through a semester of training before being assigned a school to lead in.

Daniel Petrino, a sophomore graphic design major, experienced his first semester of leadership in the fall at Pizitz Middle School.

"The point of WyldLife is to disciple to these kids," Petrino said. "We want to show them what living a Christian life really means."

Each week, YoungLife and WyldLife leaders gather at their assigned schools for Club, a worship program that is far from the norm. The first half of the program consists of loud music, funny skits and goofy games. "One week, we had the kids swallow a live goldfish. It was crazy," Petrino said.

And though Club can seem ridiculous, Olivia Artusa, a sophomore psychology major, said the point is to create an open atmosphere where "the student might come

for the fun but stay for the message," she said.

To counterbalance the craziness of Club, YoungLife and WyldLife offer small group Bible studies for students whom Petrino said "were already solid in their faith." And throughout the week, leaders try to spend extra time just hanging out with the students.

"Every other weekend, I meet with a group of them for a meal out or even a pick up game of basketball," Petrino said. "The point is to form relationships and spread the Word of God through example."

Photo by Katelyn Snow

CHOIRS

build community and worship God *through song*

by Michael Kline

The qualifications to be in the Samford Ministries and Gospel Choirs were simple. One did not need to major in music or go through a grueling audition process. Students in the choirs had a passion for music and a love for God.

Samford Ministries Choir

Being completely student-led, the Student Ministries Choir undertook a transformation with new student leadership and a new theme to unify the year.

The theme was "One Name." "All of our songs focus on the different names of Jesus. He is different things to different people, but there is still one name that at His name all knees will bow," senior early education major and the choir's president Rebecca Glenn said.

The choir performed concerts throughout the year, but for many, the choir's fall and spring tours provided their favorite performances. "Tours are a way of bringing the choir closer together, but it's also a time to see God work," Glenn said.

For its fall "mini" tour, the choir traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee over Halloween weekend, where they sang for local

churches and rescue missions as well as doing work among the community. Then, for its spring tour, choir members spent their spring break in New Orleans, Louisiana, spreading their ministry through music and community.

But it is not just the music that draws this group of people together. Many love the Samford Ministries Choir because of its family-like community. "Choir is really like a family that has been with me through the good and the bad," sophomore pre-pharmacy major Shea Howard said. "I know I can go to any of my fellow choir members with a problem, and I will find good advice and friendship."

Gospel Choir

The Gospel Choir spent its year providing an environment of worship and testimony. Performances included a large concert on campus in December and several other smaller ones throughout the fall and spring. The choir grew to size of 30 members and was directed by senior music major Zequillia Wilson.

The Gospel Choir's performances provided an atmosphere of worship and celebration not only for the audience but for the performers as well. "The Gospel Choir has been an outlet for me to plug in with God, because sometimes you can't always make it to a Bible study," freshman communication studies major Aja Mosley said. "Being in the choir is a good way to hang out with friends and worship God."

While the choir grew together in community, it also provided a learning experience for everyone involved. "I've learned to push myself musically, pushing to improve my voice," sophomore pre-business major Rochelle Pitts said.

Members were also pushed to be more creative with their performances, changing the songs' melodies and harmonies to fit how they wanted to perform them. "I've learned that just because a song is written in a particular way doesn't mean that the director will want it arranged the same way as the original," Pitts said. "It makes it a challenge, but it also makes it fun."

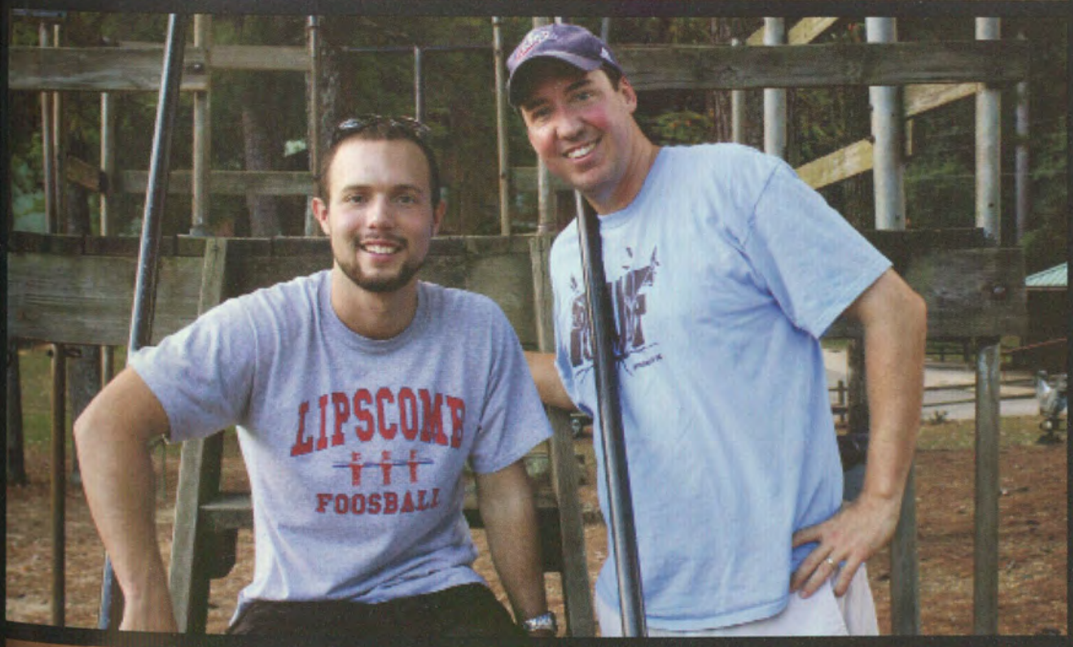
"I think what we're realizing is that it's very difficult to do that with an exclusivity," junior exercise science major Jake Albert said. It's so much easier to accomplish the task when you have a unified body of believers."

Top Left: The Samford Ministries Choir stands proud as they are about to perform in Hodges Chapel.

Bottom Left: The Gospel Choir leads the Quad in worship as they sing outside the University Center.
Photos by Jane Marie Hutcheson

Top Left: Sophomores Caroline Harbin and Anna McKoy wait for worship to begin.

Bottom Left: The leaders of UM pose outside Reid Chapel on the infamous FreshMIN red couch.
Photo by Tim Tapscott



Middle Left: Sophomore Christine Pappas sips coffee at the UCF House.

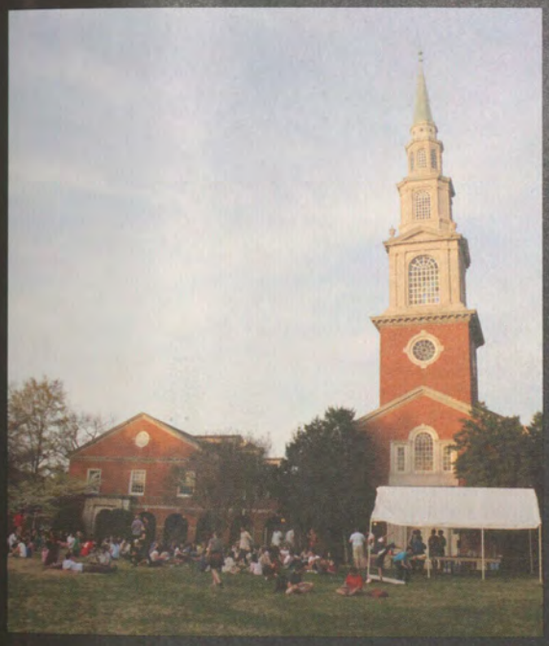
Middle Left: Sophomore Ben John and RUF leader Jason Sterling take a break at the RUF retreat. *Photo by Rachel Freeny*

Top Left: Students were able to travel to Ghana, Africa through Study Abroad this year.
Photo by Brittney Harrison

Bottom Left: The Avett Brothers put on a great concert during Spring Fling.
Photo by Liz Vincent

Middle Right: The Ladies Lacrosse team gets ready for a big game.
Photo by Liz Vincent

Bottom Right: Senior Eddie Terrell and his girlfriend Nathalie Marten check out the iPad he won at Spring Fling.
Photo by Liz Vincent

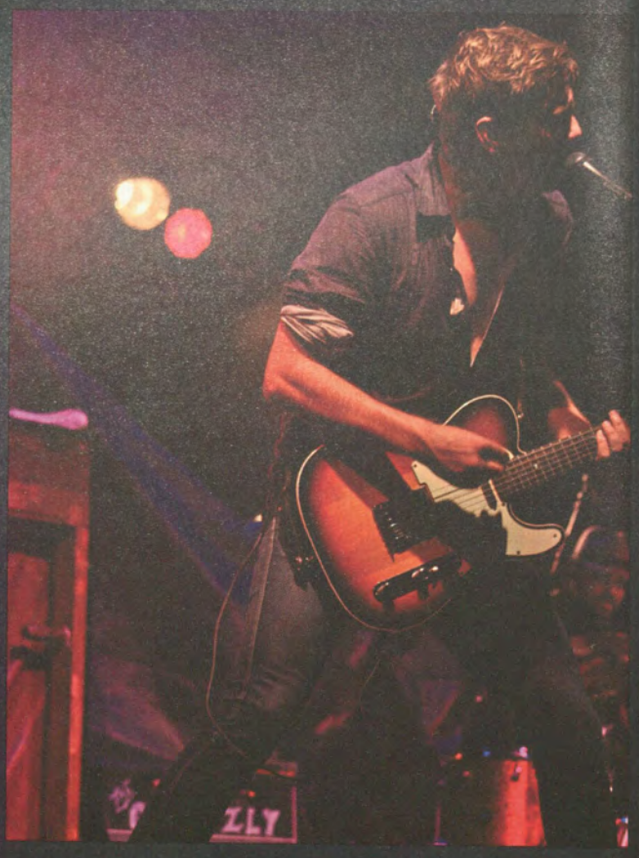


Top Left: Students fellowship outside Reid Chapel before Shiloh worship.
Photo by Tim Foote

Top Right: A Business class studies in a hi-tech classroom setting.
Photo by Taylor Horneman

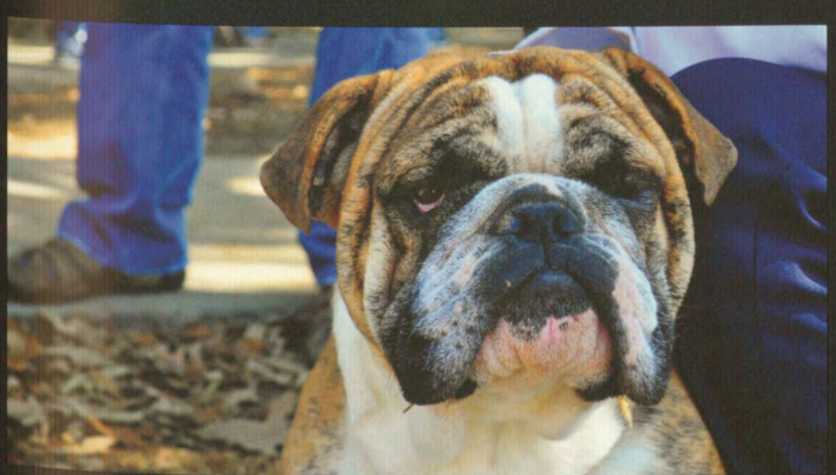
Bottom Left: The Wright Center looks beautiful during the Masquerade Ball.
Photo by Taylor Horneman

Bottom Right: Sophomores Ali Thurwachter and Jordan Cox show their excitement for Christmas.
Photo by Tim Foote



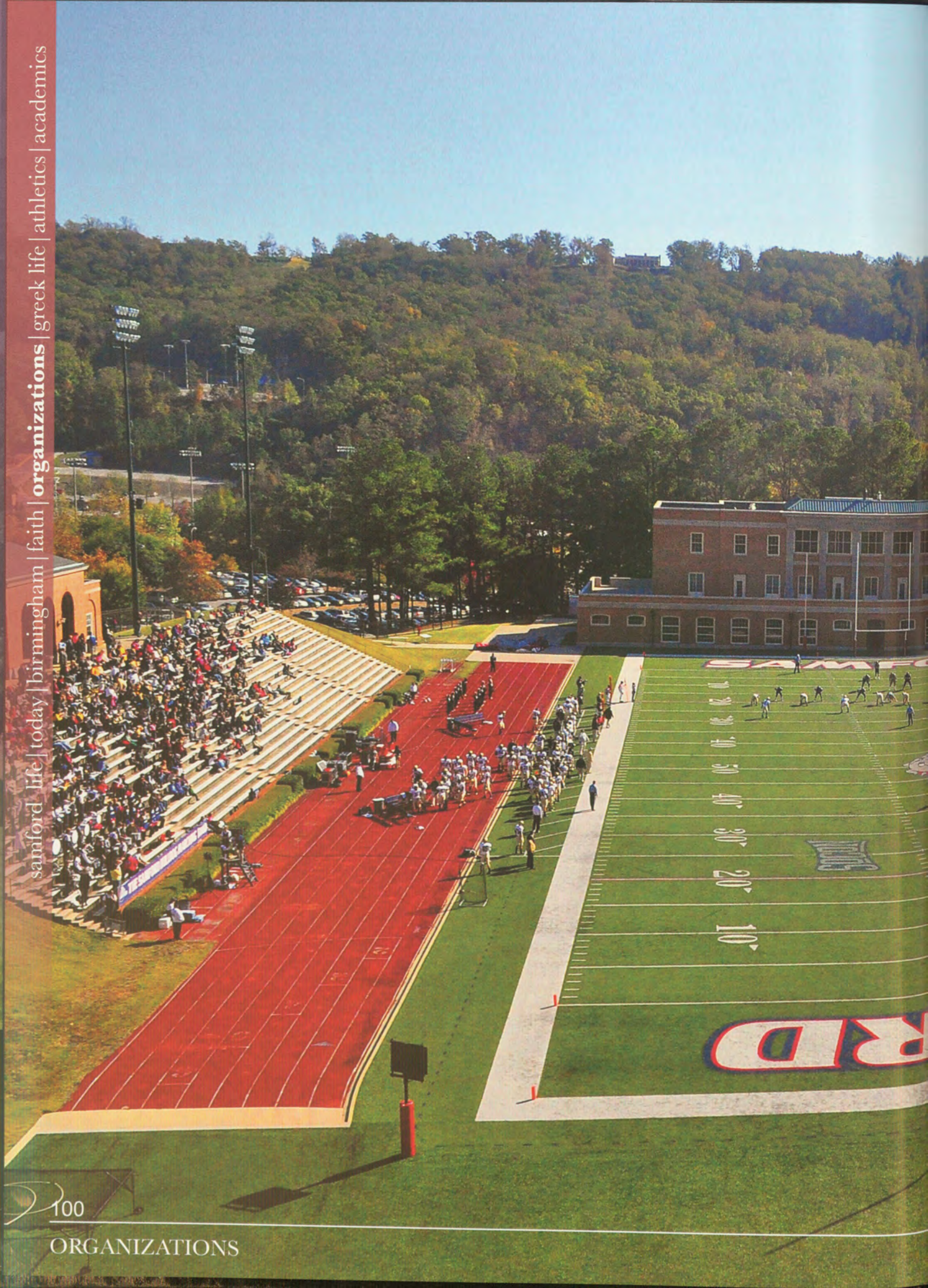
Above: Sophomores Payne McDowell, Doug Lyons and Caleb Zorn are aspiring male models.
Photo by Payne McDowell

Bottom Right: Senior Homecoming Court reps Terra Garmon and Dan Hall ride in the parade.
Photo by Madison Hall



Bottom Left Sophomores Kaleigh Warwick, Bobby Ellison, Liz Vincent and Daniel Petrino wait for The Avett Brothers to perform during Spring Fling.
Photo by Kaleigh Warwick

Top Right: Pictured here are Freshman Tim Foote and Junior August Rhea who compete in an event during Connections.
Photo by Madison Hall



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Entre Nous | Impact

What does student involvement mean to *you*?

"While studies are certainly an important part of my Samford experience, I have learned much through participation in extracurricular opportunities. Some of the activities that have been particularly meaningful and formative for me have been my involvement with the Student Activities Council, Residence Life, Pi Kappa Phi, and Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. I have learned innumerable lessons about leadership from these organizations and from the relationships with mentors and peers fostered through these organizations. Organizations and activities mean nothing to me without the people that form them. The relationships I have formed with those whom I have served and served with have called me to strive to live a life that gives back to my community."
Rich Havard – senior religion major

"I cannot emphasize enough the importance of campus and community involvement. This year, I'm working as the news director for Samford's WVSU radio station, the web editor for Exodus magazine, an editorial intern for flower magazine and a dance teacher at NorthStar Youth Ministries. I am also a member of the Kappa Tau Alpha journalism honor society and Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society. I've had the chance to meet so many amazing people and do so many neat things, all because of my involvement at Samford and in the Birmingham community."
Lauren Womack – senior journalism and mass communication major

"It's difficult for me to not be involved - I truly love Samford -the institution, the tradition, and the community. It's easy to get involved when you really believe in what the University stands for and strives for."
Madison Hall - senior history major

"Being involved with student organizations has allowed me to develop my passions into skills and work with likeminded students who I may not have met otherwise."
Kelsey Boone – junior english major

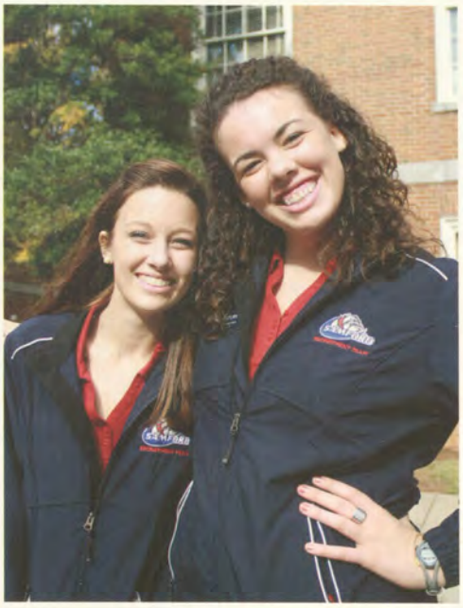
"Being involved gives you the sense that you are creating something special for the student body as well as meeting some really cool people along the way."
Henry Heaton - sophomore journalism and mass communication major

"Through my experiences in A Cappella Choir, I have learned that as a musician and a believer in Christ, one of the most important things we have is community. Now I feel that I better understand when Dr. Copeland tells us that we are 'more than a choir."
Josh Bullock - senior music major

"The biggest impact that music ensembles have had on my college experience is that I am exposed to a lot of people. I love that I can be involved in ensembles where the variety of majors ranges from music to business to pharmacy."
Emily Hale - senior music major

"I think my involvement in campus organizations molded my college days and allowed me to get the most out of my college experience. Without my involvement in SAC, Greek life, and other organizations I would have missed out on many growth opportunities and important relationships with my peers and members of the administration."
Molly Jones – senior journalism and mass communication major

"Honestly I did not really plan on getting this involved at Samford, but when opportunities for service and leadership presented themselves I pursued them whole-heartedly. I decided I had to either go big or go home and I didn't feel like going home. The most useful skills I have learned through my leadership experiences at Samford have been how to properly manage my time and how to effectively communicate with people. I believe that these are the most useful tools in effectively contributing to any organization, and I think that they will serve me well later in life."
Sam Dickerson – senior accounting major



Photos by Madison Hall, Leah Jane Henderson, and McKenzie Masters

"During my four years here, I've been involved in Alpha Delta Pi, Samford University Honor's program, Phi Kappa Phi honor fraternity, Alpha Lambda Delta honors fraternity, Pi Sigma Alpha political science honor fraternity, Order of Omega Greek honor fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership fraternity, Howard College of Arts & Sciences Ambassadors, the Pre-Law society, the Mock Trial team, Senate, Presidential Advisory Committee, Freshman Forum, and volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House. I came in to Samford with this attitude of, 'Well, I'm just going to join every club or organization that I'm interested in.' I thought that I had nothing to lose. Through my involvement I discovered what I was passionate about and interested in, and I had to prioritize what was important to me. The organizations that I've stuck with over the years and become passionate about--those are the ones that matter to me, that have changed me, that have blessed my life."

Jessica Cunningham - senior political science major

"Getting involved in groups and organizations has not only allowed me to form connections, it has allowed me to represent and serve Samford in a meaningful and rewarding way."

Brandy Luna - junior communication studies major

"Being involved has been a key part of my college experience. I've met many new friends and learned even more about myself. My involvement has provided me with opportunities to take on more responsibility as well."

Jane Eggenberger - freshman education major

"I love being involved. I have made my best friends at Samford by getting plugged into various activities and it has been fun. I also feel like I have really grown as a person by being surrounded by positive influences. There are so many people in leadership positions that are great examples of professionalism and effective communication and I can carry each of these skills into my future career."

Elizabeth Cassada - junior art major

Delta Sigma Theta & Black Student Union

by Craig Kleimeyer

On January 13, 1913, 22 young women founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., on the campus of Howard University. The 22 women were unhappy with the injustices of their generation, and they wanted to create a sorority dedicated to sisterhood, scholarship and service.

Delta Sigma Theta's motto was: "A Sisterhood Called to Serve: Transforming Lives, Impacting Communities."

The University's Sigma Eta Chapter, chartered on March 18, 1995 with 11 women, hosted and supported a wide array of events on campus and in the Birmingham community, working collaboratively with the local YWCA, P.U.L.L. for Girls, and area schools offering tutoring, mentoring, and health awareness. Members who studied abroad in London were involved with an international community service project, for which the chapter held a clothing drive with profits going to Oxfam and other local charities.

"The Sigma Eta Chapter seeks dedicated, committed young women who symbolize the ideals and principles of Delta Sigma Theta with an affinity for scholastic excellence and enthusiasm for community service," senior biology major and vice president of Delta Sigma Theta Ashley Spann said.

Third year pharmacy school student and member Paige Pettaway said she had always loved the sisterhood, scholarship, and service aspects of Delta Sigma Theta. She said her favorite event was the Black History Commemorative March, held during Black History Month.

"It motivated me as well as the Sigma Eta Chapter to be more proactive in the social issues of our time," she said. "It was an eye-opening experience that I think this event was great for the Samford community, and I hope to see more events of this nature."

Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Chenelle Terry also said she loved the sisterhood of Delta Sigma Theta, and she said that she got involved because of a step show she saw when she was younger.

"From that point on, I noticed that some of the women that I admired in my life or that were around me were apart of the organization and it was something that I wanted to become apart of," she said. "I admired their presence and the way they carried themselves."

The University's first ever National Pan-hellenic Council (NPHC) Steptease highlighted all of the NPHC organizations on campus at the same time.

"It was great to be a part of something new at Samford," Terry said.

Another prominent group for African American students on campus was the Black Student Union (BSU).

"The mission of BSU, as stated on our constitution, is to promote positive relationships between black students and the Samford student body by promoting an environment of inspiration for minority students to excel in all aspects of campus life and community engagement, educating the student body about the history and culture of minorities, and discouraging racial insensitivity through awareness activities," junior music education major Kris Boyd said.

Samford University

The Black Student Union looked to spread awareness about diversity issues on the campus by hosting several events. In February, BSU compiled a brief list with descriptions of pioneers in black history, which was read on WVSU-FM 91.1, the University's radio station. Also, the organization, with the help of a special sub-commitee, Brothers of One Voice, hosted a unity prayer. A beloved professor, Dr. Joseph Scrivner, delivered a message that challenged students to not only think of racial issues during Black History Month but throughout the year.

The BSU went on to host another awareness raising event through Brothers of One Voice, the Round Table Discussion. At this event, Cedric Sparks, the Executive Director of Youth Services for the city of Birmingham, delivered an inspiring message that challenged students to improve the community around them. The students in attendance did just that, and at the tables moderators facilitated discussion that not only identified issues at the University, but also highlighted ways that those issues could be resolved.

BSU fed the homeless at Lin Park and participated in Samford Gives Back, cleaning the neighborhood near the Pratt City Library. Also, they orchestrated a food drive that supplied can goods to families in the community as well as a local shelter.

The Black Student Union challenged its members to become leaders on campus and make a difference in the community.

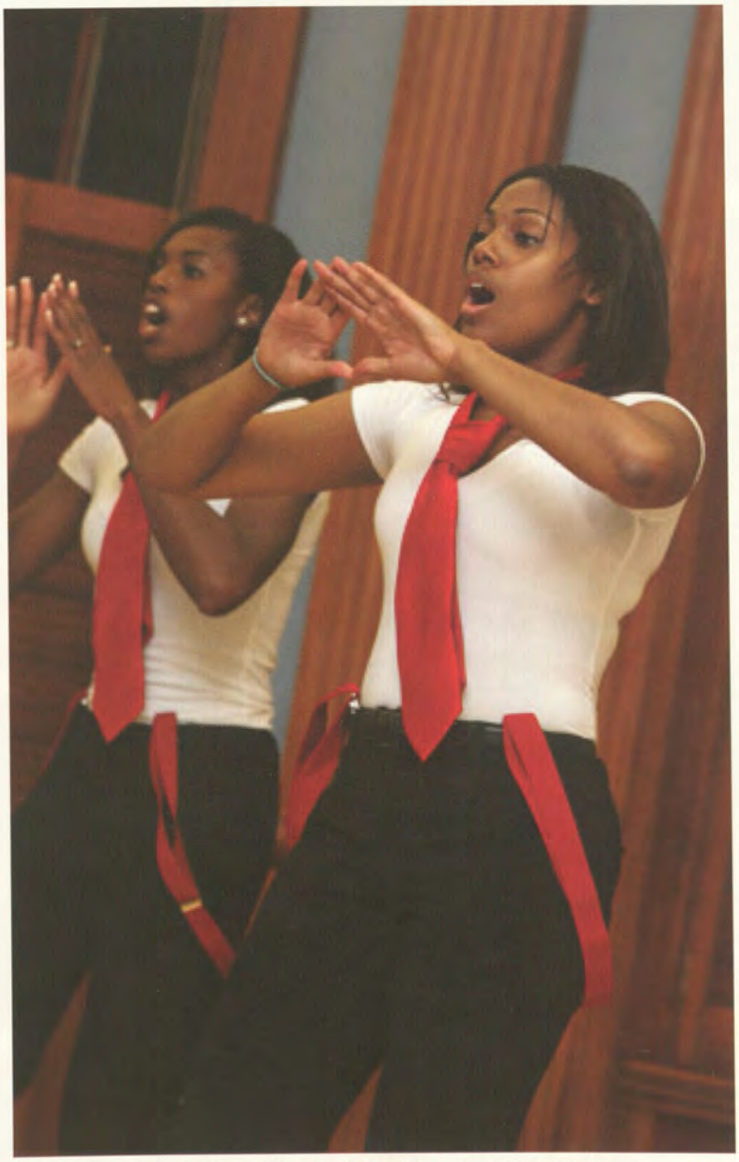


Photo courtesy of samford.edu, @SamfordBSU and depauw.edu

SRT & Ambassadors

help shape the university's future

by Lauren Cherry

With record enrollment and a capital fund, it is no wonder the university looked towards two bright groups of students to serve the University's welcome mat.

Two outstanding organizations, the Student Recruitment Team (SRT) and the Ambassadors, warmly welcomed visitors, donors and potential new students to campus.

SRT was made up of about 80 students of different ages, majors and backgrounds. SRT hosted three Preview Days during the Fall semester that allowed high school juniors and seniors to tour and witness the beauty of campus firsthand. SRT members showed students and parents why they love the University with tours and panels that highlighted what Samford has to offer as well as each member's unique college experience.

"This year we made an extra effort to make sure students and parents saw the campus. We also increased interaction with Recruitment Team members by allowing more of them to be involved with the tours," senior entrepreneurship major and vice president of SRT Kendall Shelton said. SRT gave prospective students a better understanding of daily campus life.

"It is good for high school students to make a connection with someone who is familiar with their situation," Shelton said. "It is like buying a car from someone who just bought the same car."

The students who were on SRT had a passion for the University and for prospective students, and were proud to serve as representatives of the University and to give prospective students an introduction to the school that they love so much.

"My favorite part of SRT is working with the prospective students and their parents to show them all the things Samford has to offer, and sometimes even answering questions they didn't know they had," sophomore psychology major Sarah Morse said.

Another organization that served the university alongside the office of the president and university advancement was the Ambassadors program. The Ambassadors was a highly selective group of students who hosted events and interacted with alumni and trustees.

Ambassadors provided a way for the trustees and board of directors to interact with students. These students get to mingle with them and find common ground with something they both love: the University.

"With all the events and changes going on around Samford, there always seems to be a need to have an ambassador at an event," senior history major Kyle George said. "I think that is a great problem to have as it gives us more opportunities to stand out and make an impact in the direction in which Samford is headed. I am very excited to see the program continue to grow as Samford makes this push with the capital campaign."

At Homecoming, the Ambassadors spent their time at the alumni tailgate, where they mixed and mingled with graduates.

"It was very cool to tell them how much I love this University, knowing that they love it too," senior marketing major Susan Hamm said.

The Student Recruitment Team and the Ambassadors programs continued to help the University recruit excellent students and form strong relationships with alumni and donors who have helped to make the University what it is today.

Top: Sophomore SRT member Hannah Granberry gives a tour to students.

Middle Left: Some of the Ambassadors gather with Dr. Westmoreland.

Bottom Right: Dr. Kimrey and his wife enjoy some time together.

Photos by Madison Hall

SGA Rejuvenated

changes and traditions

by Lauren Kostoff

While the tradition of the Student Government Association (SGA) may be long standing at Samford University, the changes and rejuvenation of this year's team drew attention. Besides the new faces of the team, the changes ranged from Twitter accounts, to budget increases to the reorganization of various branches—it was a new era of SGA.

SGA was organized into five branches: Senate, Development, Student Activities and Judicial. Over each of these branches were vice presidents, who oversee the activities and inner-workings of their particular branch. SGA president Sam Dickerson, a senior accounting and economics major, was in charge all of the various vice presidents and branches. Also included in the SGA leadership team was a presidential advisory board, treasurer and the new addition of a chaplain.

One of the most significant changes in SGA was the addition of the Student Activity Fee. This change has directly affected the Senate branch of SGA, whose previous budget consisted of $15,000 or less, but is now $20,000. Junior economics major John Woods served as vice president of the Senate.

"Every year, Senate is granted a designation appropriations budget that is solely used to fund student organizations on campus," he said. "This increase in budget is a great thing because it allows us to be more generous in our funding of organizations that really benefit our campus."

After organizations submitted an application for funds, they then attended the Senate meeting, where the finance committee determined the appropriate amount of funding to give each group based on need and the group's impact on campus. The Senate itself was made up of elected students representing certain residential areas and majors on campus. These senators make it their goal to represent the ideas of the people from their district.

Another branch of SGA that faced recent changes is Student Activities and their committee, the Student Activities Council. The SAC was led by two vice presidents, Vice President of Events Tori Bragg, a junior political science and journalism and mass communication double major, and Vice President of Programming Trevor Starnes, a junior history major. In previous years, the SAC has been organized in a partner-planning system, meaning two people were in charge of each event within the SAC.

"This year we wanted to see event planning as a more holistic, team building experience," Bragg said. "This year the events are divided by similar nature and have 'directors' who are more involved in the day-to-day big picture planning and 'committee members' who are involved to help execute specific tasks."

A new addition to the SGA team this year was Director of Student Leadership and Programming Janna Pennington. Pennington met with students and oversaw their day-to-day work within SGA.

"SGA's hand is in everything. And that is a quality unique to SGA here at Samford," Pennington said.

Aside from the changes in leadership and finance, the direction and mindset of the SGA team as a whole also had a makeover. SGA President Sam Dickerson prompted this change in many ways.

"The phrase SGA a new era has been heard amongst the team this year. We use the phrase 'A New Era' for a variety of reasons, mainly because so many things are new and improved this year," he said. "This includes the student activity fee, the restructuring, and just our overall focus on reaching out to students above and beyond what has been done in the past. One word to describe the direction of SGA this year: Rejuvenated."

Top: The SEB members of SGA establish honorable leadership over the campus as a whole.
Photo by Madison Hall

Bottom Right: Sophomores Liz Vincent and Kaleigh Warwick pose with their friends, Chef Vizzina and the Westmorelands at the SGA Inaugural Banquet.

SAC reevaluates the structure for *enjoyment*

by Cassie Sizemore

From annually celebrated Homecoming to traditionally charming Lighting of the Way to weekly-anticipated Harry's concerts, the Student Government Association's (SGA) Student Activites Council (SAC) seeked to prepare for the student body something they could really enjoy.

Two SAC vice-presidents were determined to put their focus on reevaluating the organization. Junior history major Trevor Starnes, Vice President of Programming, and junior journalism and mass communication and political science major Tori Bragg, Vice President of Events, discovered that internal restructuring of SAC was mandatory. It was clear that SAC needed to utilize the strengths of the old system but improve and progress its structure.

"We have done a lot in the restructuring plans to really give an ear to the students and hear more from them and to also have more of an ear to other organizations on campus," Bragg said.

SAC restructured from its inward designations to its outward expectations. In order to condense the organizational structure, the board implemented clearer positions. In previous years, two vice presidents shared all the events and their committees, each tackling specific events that would occur within a year. Now, there was a vice president for events and a vice president for public relations, and each vice president had directors and committees to work with in order to plan various events.

The Vice President of Events, previously titled Vice President of Programming, was responsible for planning and executing all events organized by category. Categories included musical entertainment, annual events and special events. The Vice President of Public Relations, previously titled Vice President of Events, was responsible for marketing, advertising, and the assessment of all campus events.

Around this same time, a shift in the SGA advisory board occurred, and Janna Pennington became the Director of Student Leadership and Programming.

"Janna has been really good to bring in fresh life and a fresh new perspective," Bragg said.

These changes in SAC structure helped to bridge the gap of communication between the student body and SGA. SAC also made a large effort to grab students' attention by way of music.

"Music is something that really does tend to bring people together," Starnes said. One example of this effort was the Avett Brothers concert that took place during Spring Fling 2011.

More than anything, Starnes said he hoped the restructuring would bring new ideas and allow more students to get involved with SGA.

"The reason why we did the restructuring is more for the creative genius of more students to be hands on with what comes to campus and what students want, so that it's not 4 or 5 people picking what they think is a best fit for students," Starnes said.

The changes were well received by students, and SGA was excited to see how they would impact the future.

Photos by Taylor Horneman, Tori Bragg, Kaleigh Warwick, and Katy Flinn

SAAC

Makes a Difference Off the Field

by Hillary Hallman

The Samford Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) was composed of a group of student athletes who wanted to involve themselves and make a difference on campus and in the surrounding area. SAAC included several student-athlete representatives from each sport.

SAAC members met to discuss upcoming events in the community, Birmingham area and Southern Conference region as well as different ways for all Samford athletes to contribute to these events.

"It is a way to get involved with Samford separate from an activity any student can participate in," sophomore economics major and volleyball representative Taylor Chao said.

Through SAAC, athletes not only had the opportunity to draw the community closer together, but they were also able to make a difference in Birmingham schools, neighborhoods and hospitals.

The SAAC was involved in organizing a toy drive for a local elementary school, working with Habitat for Humanity, reading to children in local schools and doing a gift wrap for these schools.

In addition, SAAC sponsored Pink Zone basketball games. These games helped raise money for Breast Cancer research as well as provided education and helped raise awareness. The players wore pink jerseys in honor of breast cancer patients, and after the game the jerseys were auctioned off and all of the money went to research on finding a cure for breast cancer.

Senior English major Rachel Gadberry served as the SAMPSYS chair. The SAMPSYS were the University's version of the ESPYS, and they took place at the end of

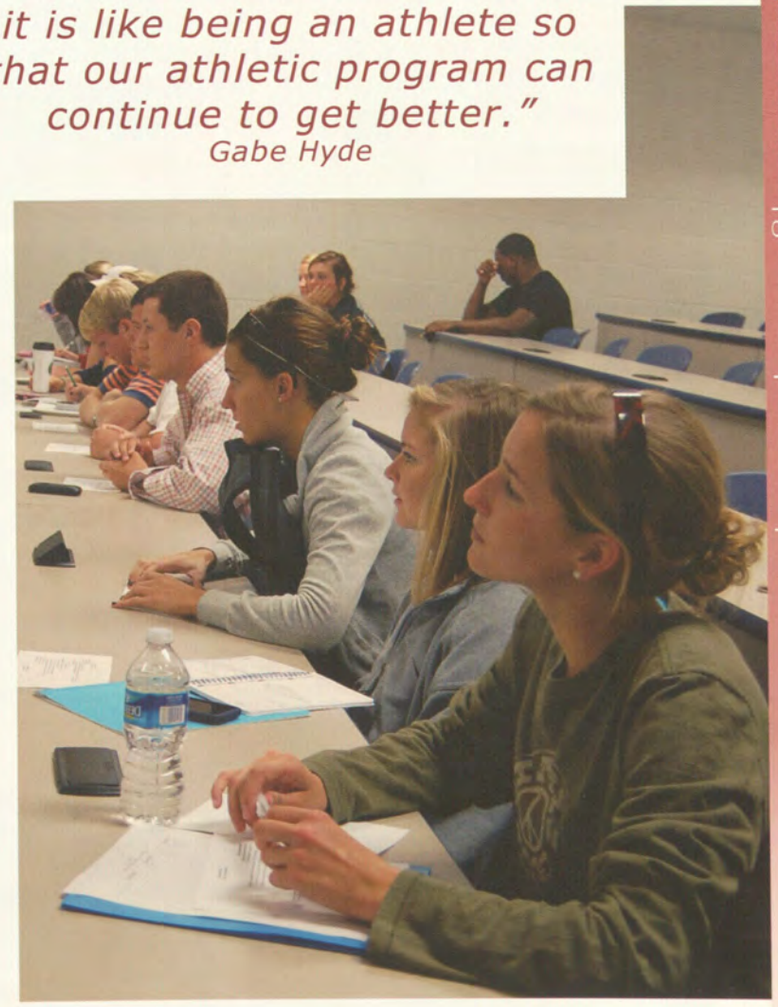
the year. This award ceremony was started in 2009 to honor various Samford athletes. Awards ranged from performance ability and highest grades to biggest blooper. The highest awards that an athlete could receive were the Mr. and Miss Bulldog awards, which combined high grades, accolades and statistics.

Gadberry said that a lot of effort was put into the SAMPSYS, like every year, and it continued to grow. It was the highlight of the year for most of the SAAC members. SAAC allowed athletes to get more involved in the community and to make a difference off of the playing field.

"SAAC is a group that provides information about what it is like being an athlete so that our athletic program can continue to get better," sophomore business major Gabe Hyde said. "The SAAC has made several contributions to Samford Athletics in terms of feedback. These students represent their respective teams and help the athletic program to improve in all areas."

SAAC allowed athletes to communicate between different sports teams and the Samford Athletic Department, and it also allowed the surrounding community to be better involved and to make a greater impact in their sphere of influence.

"SAAC is a group that provides information about what it is like being an athlete so that our athletic program can continue to get better."
Gabe Hyde



Photos by DuBose Ratchford

Student Media
gets a *head start*

by Jackie Long

The University advertised itself as a small-size university with all the advantages of a large state school. Students received a wonderful hybrid experience: a myriad of involvement opportunities with all the perks of a small institution.

One of those perks was how early students can get involved with campus activities, which was evident in the University's student media.

Freshmen could get involved within their first few weeks with the University's student newspaper, the Crimson, the campus radio station, WVSU 91.1 FM, the school yearbook, Entre Nous or with the university literary magazine, Sojourn.

Freshman journalism and mass communication major Jonathan Bailey got involved with WVSU within a month of starting his first year of college.

"I heard about the radio station through orientation," Bailey said. "I then visited the website and contacted Andy Parrish. One thing led to another, and I began working."

Bailey did voice tracking (pre-recorded song identification) for the station and was also a sports reporter for WVSU's student-produced weekly news show, Spotlight Samford.

"My favorite part of working at the station is doing recaps and reports for Spotlight," Bailey said. "I'm a huge sports fanatic, and being able to talk about sports is the second best thing to actually playing."

Not only were the Crimson, WVSU, Entre Nous, and Sojourn open to freshmen, all four were also open to students of all majors. Unlike some other universities where only journalism and mass communication majors could write for the paper or radio station, the University encouraged students from all fields of study to contribute to its student media.

Sophomore English major Steven Thomas wrote opinion columns for the Crimson and had been since the fall of his freshman year.

"I wanted to write a column from a different perspective," Thomas said. "I enjoy writing for the paper and giving a somewhat different opinion than that of the average Samford history or journalism major."

Thomas encouraged other students from various majors to start participating in student media.

"Media and journalism has always been for people of a variety of means and occupations, not necessarily professional journalists," Thomas said. "Writing about one's experiences and well-reasoned opinions are extremely valuable to society, regardless of one's occupation or object of study."

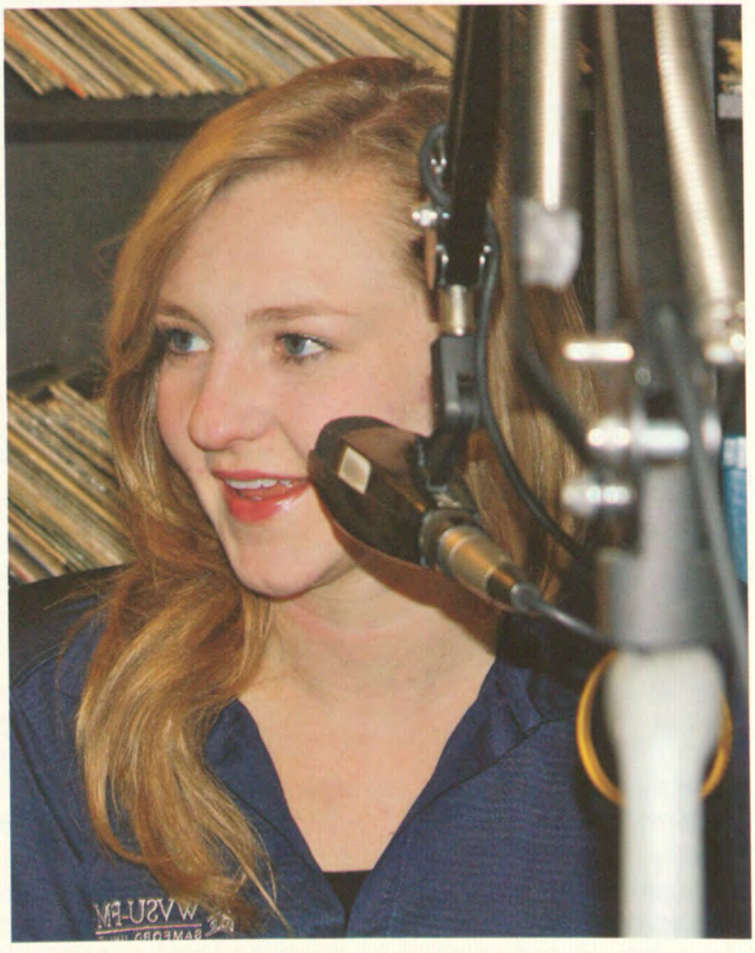
The unique experiences students gain through student media could not be denied. Senior journalism and mass communication major Lauren Womack started her student media career at WVSU and then progressed into writing and photographing for the Crimson, Entre Nous and Sojourn.

"My involvement in student media has

taught me invaluable lessons in time management, leadership and organization," Womack said. "I have enjoyed learning the art of listening. People all around campus and all around the world have so many stories to tell, and all we have to do is listen to them. By interviewing so many different kinds of people, for radio and for print, I have learned to truly listen when another person is speaking and to absorb what they have to say."

The opportunities of student media provided a priceless experience which most of those involved would not trade for the world.

"My student media involvement has made my time at Samford fantastic and has played a major role in making me the person I am today." Womack said. "Students from all different majors should not miss the chance to get involved in at least one Samford media outlet, and the earlier, the better."



Top: Junior Logan Heim works diligently on the Samford Crimson.

Bottom: Senior Lauren Womack leads the broadcasting at WVSU.
Photos by Mckenzie Masters

COMMUNITY Service

embracing birmingham

by Stephanie Tuttle

Students were able to embrace and display their willingness to serve as part of the revamped and renewed Community Service Council (CSC).

2010-2011 was a time of growth, revision, and optimism for the developing organization.

The CSC was first introduced on campus more than seven years ago but was inactive until the fall of 2009, when the organization was then restored. The Community Service Council was placed in the hands of the current CSC president, junior English major Kelsey Boone.

The goal and aim of bringing back the CSC was to have an organization solely focused on community service and not exclude any part of the student body while doing so. Boone, along with the council's committee, helped to ensure the success of the organization.

In the fall of 2010, Boone partnered with the CSC coordinator Stephanie Campbell to revise the council's constitution, set goals for the council, and form its structure. The pair held interviews to elect the committee members.

The CSC hosted the Birmingham Salvation Army Angel Tree service project that fall amidst the changes that would be taking place in the coming months for the organization.

December brought back the Samford Gives Back day and welcomed over 175 students to serve at organizations such as the Lovelady Center, NorthStar Youth Ministries, Firehouse Homeless Shelter, and Habitat for Humanity, to name a few.

The full committee was elected in the spring of 2011, with 15 female members, the majority of which are freshman. The members of the committee were each assigned to one of the five different categories of service. Each service category consists of 2 to 3 chairs. The five categories the CSC represented were animal, environmental, human, health and educational services.

The third Samford Gives Back day hosted over 600 students in the spring of 2011, leaving Boone and the committee pleasantly surprised.

"We had a goal of 300 which would have increased our previous (Samford Gives Back) day by 125 students, and we doubled that."

The CSC allowed group sign ups to encourage students who were part of other campus organizations or with groups of friends wanting to serve in the same places.

"This really increased our numbers, and we're looking to advertise sooner for next fall's
Samford Gives Back," Boone said. "But what we are hoping to continue is the pattern that every semester we will have that along with some other benefits or drives."

By holding events regularly each semester and working with the student's needs to make for the best possible turnout, the council increased student involvement with the organization.

Boone said she had big plans for the committee and the student body to embrace the community of Birmingham and its local organizations.

"Hopefully by next year we will have any where between 10-15 partnerships solidified so that organizations in the community always welcome Samford students to come to any of their events and help out," Boone said. "We are hoping to really expand and be the hub in which students come to get involved with the community, especially at some of these local places that don't get as much recognition."

Top: The SEB members of SGA establish honorable leadership over the
Photo by Madison Hall

Bottom Right: Sophomores Liz Vincent and Kaleigh Warwick pose SGA Inaugural Banquet.

Gamma Sigma Sigma

serving with a smile

by Cara Beasley

For the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma, service and sisterhood go hand in hand. As a national service-based sorority, Gamma Sigma Sigma's primary focus is serving and helping the community. The 40 members of the Delta Sigma chapter have volunteered their time over the course of the year to make a difference in the world around them.

"Gamma Sig is a good way to get involved with the Samford community and the Birmingham community," senior nutrition major Kathleen West said. "It's a good way to give back and get to know new people."

Gamma Sigma Sigma welcomed 20 new members who demonstrate a passion of serving others. Sophomore biology major Melanie Brummette, one of the new inductees, decided she wanted to join a sorority with other service-minded individuals.

"I joined Gamma Sigma Sigma because I wanted to be a part of an organization that not only was a lot of fun but that was also concerned about making a significant difference in the world outside the "Samford Bubble," Brummette said.

Throughout the year, the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma participate in both personal and group projects. The sorority began the year by continuing their annual Halloween tradition of trick-or-treating for canned goods for United Way, where they raised over 1400 food items.

They also bought and distributed Christmas presents and Easter baskets for children in need. At Children's Hospital, the group washed wagons that transport young cancer patients around the hospital campus. Before chapter meetings, the sisters gathered together for smaller projects that affect the community in big ways. One of these projects consisted of writing encouraging letters to service men and women overseas.

The sisters also participated in community-wide awareness events such as March of Dimes' March for Babies, where participants raised money and walked through the streets of downtown Birmingham to raise awareness of childhood diseases. Relay for Life was another annual community event in which Gamma Sigma Sigma sponsored a booth to raise money for cancer research.

"Collecting canned goods for United Way on Halloween, Relay for Life and Samford Gives Back were my favorite projects this year," Brummette explains. "With each of these projects, we had so much fun while working together as a group to truly make a difference."

Senior family studies major Nicole Roberts looked forward to the sorority's signature event, Howard Showcase. After taking a year off to improve and revitalize the competition, Gamma Sigma Sigma successfully held its annual campus-wide service recognition competition.

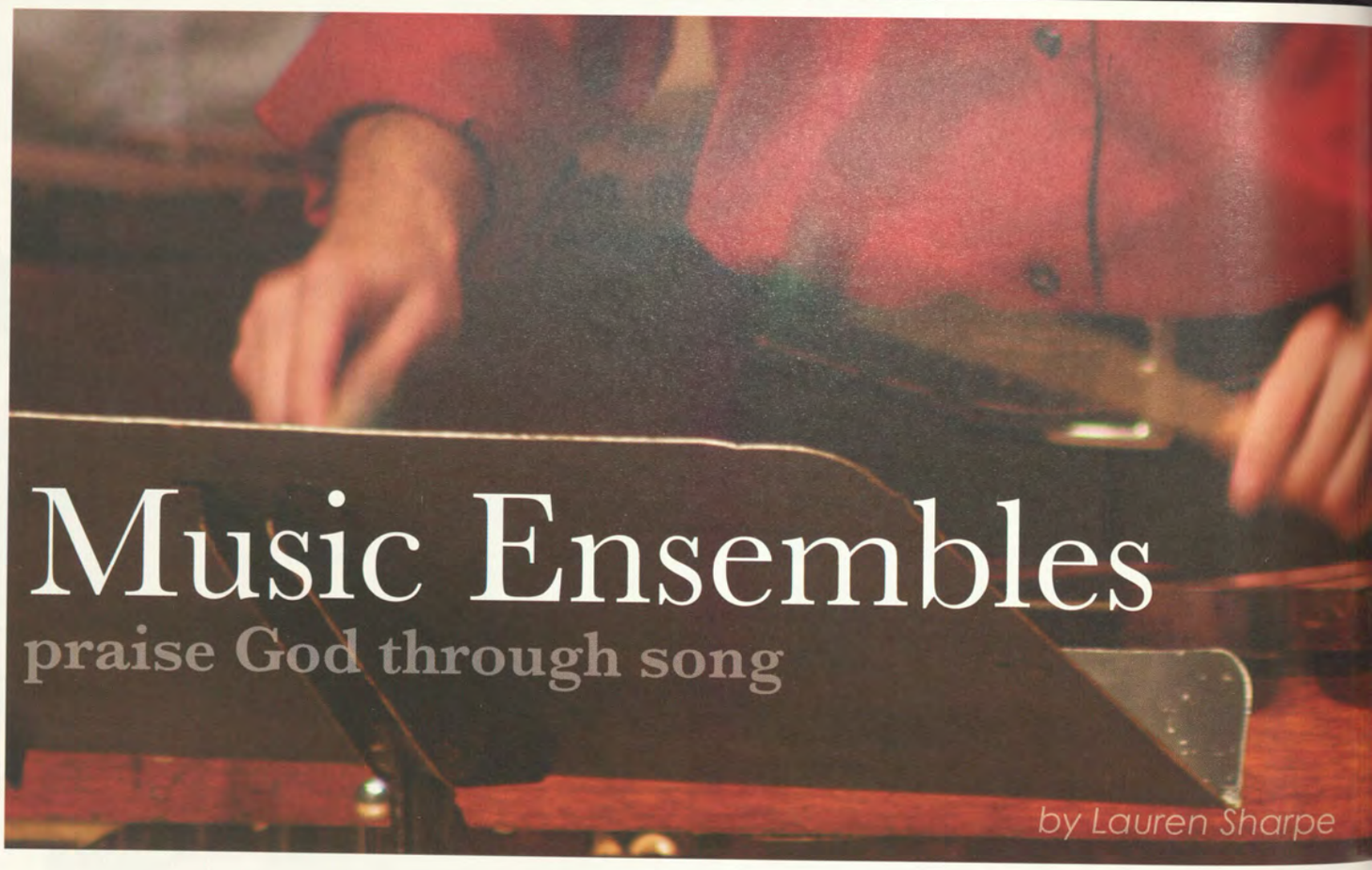
"This year we are doing Howard Showcase to promote and raise money for smaller service organizations around Birmingham that are in need of volunteers," Roberts said. "This year's showcase is different than previous years because the money raised will be

Photos by Courtney Taylor and Taylor Horneman

evenly distributed between the organizations that participate instead of going to the winning participant."

Although the sorority is service-based, the sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma still found time to fellowship with each other through a sisterhood retreat, spring formal and group dinners.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with my sisters of Gamma Sigma Sigma this year," Brummette said. "It has been such a blessing to form friendships with girls from so many different majors and backgrounds."



Music Ensembles

praise God through song

by Lauren Sharpe

In the fall, echoes from A Cappella Choir filled Hodges Chapel during the annual Homecoming Evensong. At Christmas time, Bells of Buchanan and University Chorale welcomed the season with their songs at the Hanging of the Green, and as the school year concluded, the university orchestra flooded the Wright Center with its repertoire.

Music ensembles brought many campus events to life through their music, and those students behind the instruments were united by their passion for music and not necessarily their music majors.

In fact, many students involved in music ensembles chose to major in other disciplines but still wanted an opportunity to explore their musical interests. Because they were not exclusive to music majors, the University's music ensembles were the perfect fit for such students.

Sophomore business major Rebecca Price got involved with University Chorale her freshman year because she wanted to carry over her musical participation in high school to college. "University Chorale is great because I am not a music major and do not have time to minor in music, and this is a venue where I can be a member of a quality musical ensemble," she said.

University Chorale met three days a week during both the fall and spring semester, and along with performing at the Hanging of the Green, the group participated in the Winter Music Festival, led a Lenten Vespers Service and performed the Durufle Requiem in the spring with A Cappella Choir.

While University Chorale was open to all members of the university, A Cappella Choir held auditions in the spring of the preceding year. Choir members performed together in Evensong, spring concerts and on small trips, such as a day trip to Atlanta. The preparation for and participation in such events led to more than just a unified sound, sophomore education major Kelsey Stoner said. "I enjoy being a part of A Cappella Choir because through our time together, we've all become closer and really good friends," she said.

Liz Patton, a junior religion and history double major, said she also enjoyed participating with her peers. A member of the wind ensemble, orchestra, symphonic band and former member of Bells of Buchanan, Patton said her fellow students encouraged her

throughout her time in the music building. "Although I'm not a music major, I admire and appreciate the dedication that the faculty and students put into their work, she said. "Whether it's spending countless hours over a piano drilling chords into their heads, trying to decipher the challenging world of music theory or simply giving all they have to a Thursday night performance in Brock Recital Hall, the students share a similar passion to use their musical talents to glorify their heavenly Father."

Patton, too, sought to use her musical gifts to glorify God. "Playing in an ensemble is a great opportunity to glorify God with the gifts He has given me," she said. "While I'm not the best musician, it's fun to be able to play with such talented students to make beautiful music.

"It may sound silly to some people, but for me, music is a timeless yet universal language. Everyone can understand it, and it has the power to express things that words can't. When I'm playing, I like to think that God hears my music exactly the way I hear it. It's another outlet for prayer. It's an opportunity to worship God through a medium that my words can't always do justice."

Above: Sophomore Garrett Brown plays percussion in a concert in Brock Recital Hall.
Photos by Taylor Horneman

The Marching BULLDOGS

"journey" through the 2010 school year

by Hillary Hallman

This year the Marching Bulldogs blasted excitement into throughout Seibert stadium as they hit the field to the tunes of Journey.

The bulldogs showcased some of the 80's rock band's most popular songs including "Separate Ways," "Any Way You Want It" and "Open Arms." The band closed each show with a medley of Journey classics before exiting the field and playing the classic Samford fight song. The enthusiasm of the band stimulated everyone in the stadium as spirit and excitement followed this band everywhere they went.

Sophomore music major Allen Branstetter, said that the Journey themed show was a great way to get in touch with the audience because it was so recognizable.

"It also makes a great recruitment tool," she said. "When we play exhibitions for high school shows, everything is identifiable, so the students are like 'Oh, that's so cool. I want to be in that!'"

Senior music education major and band member Stephen Zehren also complemented the Journey theme.

"The music seems accessible to wide variety of listeners," Zehren said. "Over the past four years, this has been my favorite show that we have done so far."

The band continued its tradition of ending each halftime show with the song "How Great Thou Art." They finished every game by congregating on the quad and singing the Samford Alma Mater, and the doxology.

This year the band made appearances at all home football games while also making appearances at the homecoming parade and at the Pinson Valley High School band contest. In the spring, the band served as a pep band for all of the basketball games. The band works hard to make the crowds feel involved no matter where they travel.

The Samford University Marching band is comprised of a diverse group of students representing many different organizations and majors across campus.

Student leadership is a very important component of the band and has been an instrumental element in the band's success over the years. Beyond its role at athletic events, the marching band strives to make a positive impact in the life of each of its members.

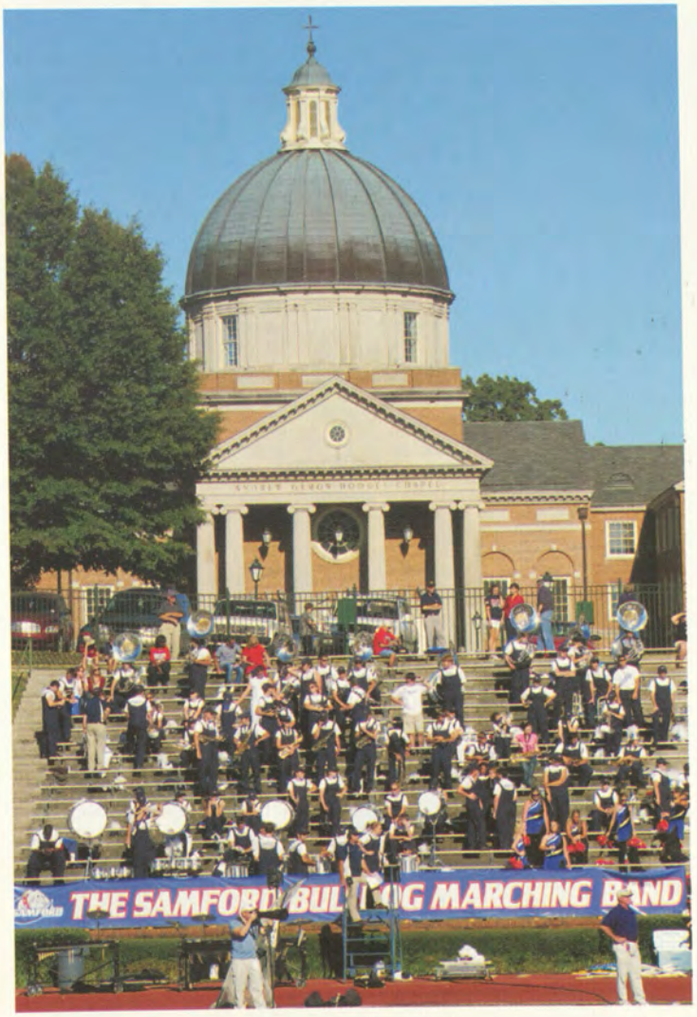
The band greatly stresses the importance of being a family. At the beginning of each season, bandmembers are divided into "band families." These families participate in a variety of character and teambuilding activities together.

Director of Bands Dr. Jim Smisek understands the importance of academia, and therefore only required the members to have two practices a week. These fast paced rehearsals allow members ample time to focus on their studies wile also giving them the opportunity to be involved in others areas on campus.

Aside from the comradeship, Members of the marching band are awarded one hour of academic credit for their participation in the band.

"The band is a great way to get your credits done," senior saxophone performance major David Gavin said. "It counts as your physical education credit, and you can get awesome scholarships for it."

Since its organization in September 1923, the Samford University Marching Band has continued to pursue excellence in all of its endeavors, striving to always shine a good light on the university that the band so proudly supports and represents.



ROTC

Gotta love a Man (or Woman) in uniform

by Elizabeth Cassada

Cadets in Samford's Air Force ROTC program enjoyed a year of fun activities, leadership opportunities and essential character-building experiences.

AFROTC cadetsm tailgated before football games, took part in intramurals and had a weekly Bible study called the Officers Christian Fellowship. They attended "Dining In," a casual cadet-only military dinner during the fall semester, and "Dining Out," a fancy military formal in the spring to which the cadets invited dates. They also visited various Air Force bases as well as an altitude chamber, which simulates the effects of high altitude on the body.

"This leadership experience will benefit me not only in my military career but also in life in general."
Phil Fiegle

Throughout the semester, the 60 cadets in the program became very close. Junior business management major Joe Lyons said being involved in AFROTC at Samford was different than participating in ROTC programs at larger universities.

"We all know each other very well," Lyons said. "It's like being a part of a big family. This atmosphere has been a vital support structure for me."

Despite the exciting activities, AFROTC wasn't all fun and games. The program taught cadets about the military, aviation, aerospace and the Air Force and emphasized the values of integrity, service and a commitment to excellence.

The cadets applied this ever-increasing knowledge through Leadership Lab, or "Lead Lab," and Physical Training, better known as "PT." Lead Lab, held every Thursday, was an activity during which the cadets were instructed on everything pertaining to the Air Force, from customs and courtesies to marching. PT exercises commenced immediately following Lead Lab as well as on Monday and Tuesday mornings and involved intense cardio, strength workouts and team building exercises.

Although cadets could not major in AFROTC, they took classes for credit hours. According to Lt. Col. Dave Crean, commander of Samford's AFROTC detachment, this was one of the aspects of the program that made AFROTC so much more than an extracurricular activity.

"In addition to normal college coursework for credit, AFROTC courses and hands-on leadership opportunities complement students' majors and inspire them to make the most of their college experiences and their careers," Crean said.

These leadership opportunities encouraged cadets to strive for excellence in the present and prepared them for a positive future.

"I have been able to have positions of being in control of others and it has forced me to better myself for their benefit," junior fitness and health promotion major Phil Fiegle said. "This leadership experience will benefit me

not only in my military career but also in life in general."

Junior nursing major Kelly Polo said she also benefitted from being involved in AFROTC and that it has helped her to evolve into a better, stronger person.

"This program has impacted my life in more ways than I can describe," Polo said. "I am a more confident, determined person, and I know exactly what I want for my future because of it."

Most students who participated in AFROTC intended to join the Air Force upon graduation.

"I've wanted to be in the Air Force for as long as I can remember," sophomore nursing major Corey Reaves said. "I want to be a flight nurse, and I'll enter the Air Force as a second lieutenant because of ROTC."

Lt. Col. Dave Crean said cadets typically serve anywhere from four to ten years in the Air Force after graduating.

"However, only four percent of those in the Air Force are pilots," Crean said. "This leaves numerous other technical, scientific, specialty and healthcare careers available, all of which of are fulfilling and provide important leadership experiences."

Whether or not cadets intend to be commissioned as Air Force officers, their experiences in AFROTC were priceless. According to Lyons, the lessons learned in AFROTC could help prepare cadets for many professions and for life in general.

"We are taught things like time management, leadership, delegation, decision making and control under stressful conditions," Lyons said. "All of these lessons among others will surely benefit the cadets in their Air Force careers and beyond."

Top: Four Air Force cadets stand in formation.

Bottom: Change of command occurs between cadets Jenny McBride and Preston Marshall.

Middle: Sophomore Olivia Char, with guidon in hand, salutes her flight commander.

Photos by Brittney Harrison

Top: The Student Recruitment Team welcome visitors on Preview Day!
Photo by Jane Marie Hutcheson

Middle Right: Some Sigma Chi boys chat outside the house.
Photo by Tim Foote

Top: Pictured are Leah Schroepfer, Jaime Richter and Sam Dickerson.
Photo by Tim Foote

Top Right: Parents and guests gather in the Wright Center for Preview Day.
Photo by Jane Marie Hutcheson

Greek Life

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Entre Nous | Impact

What is *your* favorite thing about Greek Life?

"One of the things I like about Greek life is the community it builds and that it enables me to stay close to my friends throughout my time in college."
Grant Willis, junior sports medicine major

"Greek Life at Samford has helped me build relationships with people I would have never met otherwise and grow as a person."
Goodson McLemore, sophomore biology major

"My favorite part is living in the house; I love making midnight Krispy Kreme runs and shopping in my sisters' closets."
Brittany Ross, senior accounting major

"I like getting to know a lot of people I probably would not have run into within my major or friend group, and participating in fun Samford events, like Step Sing, with my sisters."
Lindsey Collmus, sophomore elementary education major

"My favorite thing about Greek life is developing lifelong relationships with outstanding individuals. It gives me the opportunity to work with different philanthropies on campus as well as within the Birmingham community."
Ashley Younger, sophomore biology and spanish double major

"I would probably have to say that my favorite thing about Greek life is having a base on campus that enables you to really make an impact on the rest of campus."
Kyle Kehoe, senior elementary education major

"It's an awesome way to gain leadership experience and it allows for opportunities to become friends with people who are different from me and who I typically would not have been friends with otherwise."
James Holmes, junior biology & pre-pharmacy major

"My favorite thing about Greek life is just the bond that we have, not only within our own organization, but with the other groups on campus. You see people walking down the street that are part of a community that you are in and it's a great feeling of camaraderie."
Bryan Hardy, senior marketing & management

"I guess that I am really proud that I go to a school where all of the sororities support each other and build each other up by supporting each other's philanthropies. You can't get that at a state school where you don't have such a great atmosphere."
Hannah Schneider, sophomore elementary education major

"I guess my favorite thing about Greek life is seeing the power and the impact that these individual members can have when they all unite together for a common purpose, either within their individual organization or within Greek life as a whole."
Molly Jones, senior JMC major

"Samford's Greek Life is very unique and allows for a lot of opportunities within my organization, the Samford community and the Birmingham community. It's a lot of fun and has provided a lot of wonderful memories for my college years."
Emily Apple, senior nursing major

"The people and getting involved in Samford's community. Getting to know more undergraduate students and really being a part of Samford's community and developing lifelong relationships."
Caitlin Graham, senior marketing & management major

"My favorite thing about Greek life is the relationships I've formed over these years and it has given me an outlet to get involved on campus."
Taylor Bell, sophomore sociology major

"The brotherhood and the entertainment. Getting to hang out with your best friends every day, and being able to rely on your brothers to help you with anything."
Daniel Parker, junior business entrepreneurship & management major

"I'd say my favorite part of Greek life is the brotherhood that I have developed with everyone in my fraternity, especially the guys in my pledge class."
Danny Price, junior exercise science major

"Greek Life has provided me with opportunities to grow, develop as a person, and obtain a skill set for after college as well as given me friendships and accountability that will last forever."
Jake McPherson, senior sports medicine major

"My favorite thing about Greek life at Samford is that I can be in a sorority and still have great friends who are in other sororities and great friends who aren't in a sorority. All of these things I can do while still enjoying everything that my specific Greek organization has to offer."
Ally Siefke, junior marketing major

"I really love being part of an organization that encourages me to succeed academically, stressed the importance of love and help for others and provides me with opportunities to grow spiritually."
Laura Beth Rich, sophomore elementary education major

Photos by DuBose Ratchford

Recruitment

is worth the stress

by Susan Hamm

This year, Intrafraternity (IFC) and Panhellenic (PHC) recruitment were both held September 17-20.

The week prior was host to a number of IFC "pre-rush" parties, open to all non-affiliated men on campus and all women. These events were a great way to showcase the personality of each fraternity. Sigma Chi started the week with its traditional Foam Party downtown, Pi Kappa Phi followed with its annual Caribbean Party, Lambda Chi Alpha took the campus to prehistoric days with its Caveman Party, and Sigma Nu hosted its ever popular "Redneck Riviera" themed bash.

Junior accounting major Eduardo Padrino was recruitment chairman for Sigma Nu this year. He said that Recruitment benefitsed the Samford community as a whole. "When Greek life grows, it makes Samford better all around," he said.

Junior biology major Foster Veazey served as the recruitment chairman for Sigma Chi. In his opinion, recruitment is a chance to be something bigger than yourself. "It gives you a chance to make lasting friendships, have a great sense of accountability and have tremendous opportunity for leadership roles on campus," he said.

The process of planning the logistics of recruitment is difficult but rewarding. "We did everything we wanted to do, had a lot of fun, and got a lot of great guys that will really keep our fraternity strong in the future. The most difficult part of the process is actually executing all the ideas that we had come up with for each day," Padrino said.

With flat screen TVs and some of the most exotic and decadent foods imaginable, the potential new members were treated like royalty in each house.

On Tuesday, September 21, bid cards were signed and the new members were introduced for the first time as pledges of a fraternity. Girls squealed and snapped photos while the guys immediately began to learn about their new brotherhood. "The best part of Recruit-

ment is bid day because we get all of our new guys and you can really see that our hard work pays off," Padrino said.

President of the Intrafraternity Council and senior business management and marketing major Bryan Hardy was very pleased with the outcome of recruitment. "Fraternities are growing. IFC is growing. I'm very excited to see what the future holds," he said.

While fraternities were hosting recruitment events, sorority women across campus were sponsoring their own parties. Along with the largest freshman class came the largest group of potential new members. This required a new level of commitment from members of the Panhellenic community.

The Panhellenic Council made some slight changes to the selection process this year.

Each night, potential new members had been asked to rank the sororities in order of liking and thus eliminate some of their original choices. This year, only one option was eliminated on the first night of recruitment. This allowed potential new members to attend up to four parties on the second night as opposed to previous years, where potential new members could only attend a maximum of three parties. This caused some interesting changes in statistics and provided for crowded houses and late nights, but it allowed sorority women to form deeper relationships with the women participating in recruitment. It may have made decisions more difficult to make, but ultimately it allowed the potential new members to make more educated decisions when ranking their choices.

"My favorite part of Recruitment was getting to see the Bid List on Monday morning, senior biology major and recruitment vice president for Alpha Delta Pi Sarah Blaire McGough said. "There is a special kind of excitement in knowing that any stress or lack of sleep we had endured that week was completely worth each and every girl on that list."

On Monday evening, holding hand-painted signs and yelling their respective cheers as loudly as possible, members of the Panhellenic community paraded in brightly colored t-shirts to A.H. Reid Chapel, where potential new members waited inside to open their bid cards. After the cards were opened, the women stormed the quad to join their new sororities. They were then swept away photos and celebrations.

Recruitment was much more than just a process for potential new members to affiliate with a Greek organization. The process helped build sisterhood and taught life lessons to participants on both sides of the process, regardless of affiliation.

"I learned so much from Recruitment," McGough said. "I learned that a leader must determine what would bring the most good to the group, how to better manage time, that encouragement is one of the greatest gifts to give or receive, but most importantly I learned just how important the relationships within my organization have affected my life."

Left: The sorority presidents gather during Squeal to welcome new girls.

Above: New recruitments show their excitement of getting accepted into a sorority.
Photos by Madison Hall

RUSH diaries

A Rush Experience

by Taylor Bish

day 1

It was incredibly nerve wracking standing outside of the sorority house before parties began on the first night of recruitment. The sorority members in the houses were banging on the windows and doing cheers while my recruitment group and I were anxiously waiting outside and wondering what to expect. Don't get me wrong, I was extremely excited, but going into an unknown situation always makes me nervous.

As it came time to begin the parties, Panhellenic members and sorority girls counted down the final 10 seconds of waiting. Suddenly, the sorority house door flung open, accompanied by a roar of screams. I took one step into the house and was grabbed by a girl who already knew my name and immediately started asking me questions. The girls in the house explained their philanthropy, sang a series of popular songs revised to talk about their sorority, and asked me a million questions about myself.

By the time I left the first house, I had talked to at least four different girls and felt slightly overwhelmed. Each house that followed did mostly the same thing, just with different details and songs.

At the end of the night, I was completely exhausted. I had met so many girls and answered so many of the same questions. In one word, the first night of recruitment was a blur.

Day 2

I actually felt pretty confident going into the second night of recruitment, known as theme night. However, once I got my party schedule, all of that confidence disappeared.

Only one house had asked me back. I was extremely disappointed and embarrassed. All of my friends had been asked back to at least three houses, if not four.

I was scheduled for the first party, so I went straight there after getting my schedule. I pulled myself together and tried to make the best of it, reminding myself that at least I was still in rush.

When I got to the house I put a smile on my face and went in with a hopeful attitude. I liked the house more than I had the previous

day, which made me feel a little better.

Once I was done with my party, I went back to the gym to wait to go vote for the next round of parties. Since I only went to one party, I had to wait for five hours. Thankfully I had some reading to finish for a class and I was able to talk to other potential new members to pass the time.

Day 3
I woke up anxiously on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. I checked my phone, relieved that I didn't have any missed calls or texts letting me know that I had been dropped from recruitment.

Trying to be calm, I stayed in bed until 10:00 a.m. When my clock said 10:01, I sighed in relief because I made it through the drop period. I was going back to preference round, the final round of recruitment.

When I went to meet my group, I was excited for the last party. I knew I had nothing to worry about since I had only attended one house the night before. When I got my schedule, I didn't have any surprises or disappointments like some girls did, and I was excited to go back to the house for my final recruitment party.

When the time came for parties to begin, I walked into the house and immediately noticed how the atmosphere had completely changed from the previous nights. The sorority members were calm and the conversations were more serious. They talked to us about their sisterhood and what their symbols meant.

I left the house feeling good about getting a bid. When I got back to the gym we weren't allowed to talk to any other potential new members until after we voted for the last time. Even though the final decision was easy for me, not speaking to others helped me realize the importance of the decision for each individual girl participating in recruitment.

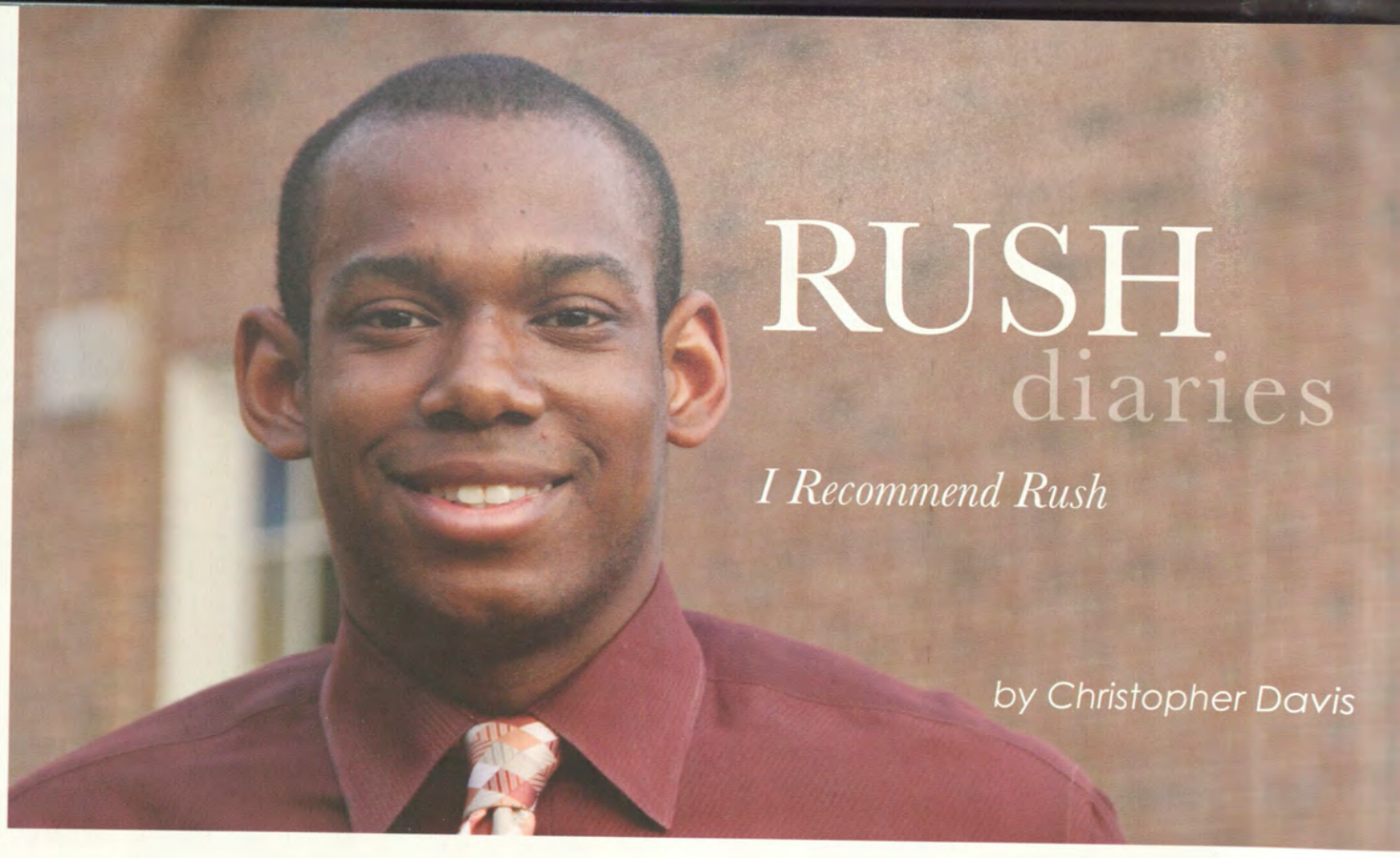
Day 4
On bid day, I anxiously woke up early in the morning. I knew if I didn't get a call saying I had been dropped, I had received a bid to join the sorority whose house I attended on preference night. I was ecstatic when I made it through the drop period once again.

As fun as it was participating in recruitment, the process was also extremely stressful. I went through all of my classes and activities that day happy to be certain of the upcoming events and relieved of much of the stress I felt at the beginning of recruitment.

When it was time for the evening's bid day festivities to begin, I walked to Reid Chapel with my recruitment group. As we approached, all the sororities were on the quad cheering and holding up signs. I became very excited and as we entered the chapel, it was obvious everyone else felt the same way.

Our recruitment group leaders and Panhellenic members revealed which sororities they belonged to before they gave us an envelope with our bid card. We had to sit on envelopes so no one would peek at their bid before it was time. I ripped mine open knowing what it said, but still very excited about the Greek letters I saw on my bid card. I followed the crowd out the door then ran across the lawn to my new sisters. They had signs with our names on them and t-shirts waiting for us. We went back to the house and took our first pictures as sorority girls, then went to our bid day party. Although recruitment was a stressful time, the excitement of bid day and having a group of sisters to call my own made the whole process worthwhile.

Photos by Katy Flinn and Megan Beavers



RUSH diaries

I Recommend Rush

by Christopher Davis

When I first came to Samford, I had mixed feelings about fraternities. I wanted to join a fraternity, but at the same time I didn't want to join one.

I wanted to join because I knew the benefits of being a member of a fraternity. For instance, knowing fraternity alumni can help you get a job when you graduate. Joining a fraternity is also an opportunity to be friends with upperclassmen.

However, I didn't want to join because I had heard of all the horrible things fraternities do to new members, such as hazing. I wasn't sure if joining a fraternity was worth going through all that trouble just to have a group accept you as one of their members (even though I didn't know if the rumors were true).

I decided that I would go through recruitment just to see what fraternities are all about. The first night was Smokers night, which was the most tedious night of recruitment. I visited each fraternity. At each fraternity house, I would walk in and shake each member's hand and then listen to the speech that they prepared. After the speech was over, I introduced myself to members of the fraternity. I told them my name, where I was from, where I graduated from high school and my major. However, I could only speak to each member for a short amount of time because I needed to speak with other members. I also had to stand up for a long time, which can make anyone tired after a while.

The second night of rush was my favorite because I could go to each fraternity and talk to each individual as long as I wanted. I learned more about the members and their fraternity than I did the previous night. The second night was more comfortable. I could dress casually, and the fraternities had delicious food.

The third night began the series of invitation-only parties. If I received more than one invitation, I would be able to pick which fraternities I visited that night. In

order to know which fraternities invited me back, if any, I had to check an online website called ICS. When I went to check ICS, I didn't have an invitation. I was somewhat hurt, but decided to just move on and focus on my homework.

Later I checked my email and found an email saying that one fraternity was late sending out their invitations. There was a mix up, but the fraternity actually had invited me back. I was so excited to be invited back to Brothers Night In.

At the fraternity house, we ate great food and played corn hole. We even played video games on Nintendo 64. One of the games we played was one of my all time favorites, Super Smash Bros. I had a wonderful time playing that game, and it brought back so many childhood memories.

The final night of recruitment was Brothers Night Out. If you received an invitation from a fraternity, that invitation included directions to a location where the fraternity brothers waited for you. My directions led me to The Club, a gorgeous building near Vulcan Park. When I walked inside the room had dinner tables covered with white tablecloths. I looked outside and I saw a balcony. When I walked out on the balcony I saw a beautiful view of Birmingham and fraternity members talking to potential new members. I got to talk to fraternity brothers and alumni while enjoying steak and orange rolls, The Club's specialty food.

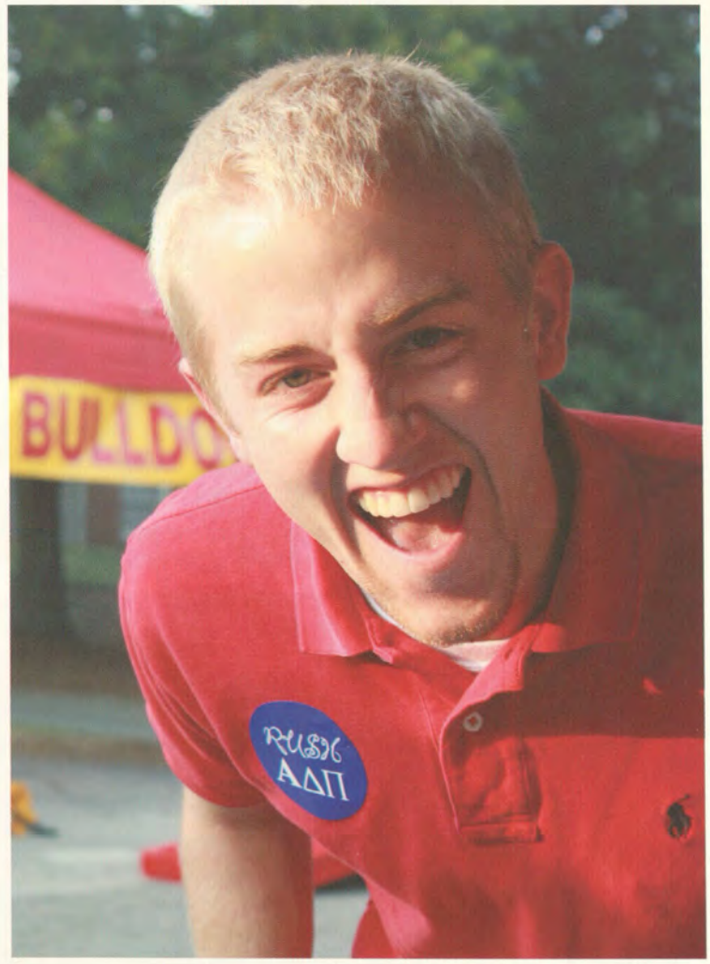
On bid day, the culmination of fraternity recruitment, I decided not to join a fraternity because the overall cost was just too much for me.

If you are at all interested in joining a fraternity, I would encourage you to participate in recruitment. Recruitment was a great experience, and I got to meet upperclassmen as well as alumni and enjoy some delicious food. Even though I did not join a fraternity, recruitment was a great experience for me.

Top Right: Pi Kappa Phi fraternity member Taylor Steele shows his excitement for rush and also shows support for ADPi.

Bottom Right: Pi Kappa Phi lights a candle during fraternity rush.

Photos by Madison Hall



Top: All of the Panhellenic Council members were in charge of recruitment and sponsored events throughout the fall especially, including new member education workshops and an all-Greek service mixer.
Photo Courtesy of PHC

Bottom: The Intrafraternity Council members, along with the PHC, welcomed the new Student Affairs staff and enjoyed sponsoring events and serving fraternity members.
Photo by Taylor Horneman

Panhellenic & Interfraternity Councils

growing stronger through challenges

by Virginia Harris

Fall 2010 was a blur for many Greek organizations on campus. The Panhellenic and Interfraternity councils were excited for a fresh outlook with new staff in The Division of Student Affairs. All involved hit the ground running as soon as the new school year arrived, covering things from Recruitment to educational events and service events.

Fall Recruitment was the focus for sororities and fraternities both as fall semester began. Sorority recruitment kicked off Friday, Sept. 17 and culminated with bid day on Monday, Sept. 20. Fraternity recruitment began Thursday, Sept. 18 and ended with bid signing on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Other PHC and IFC sponsored events throughout the semester were new member education workshops for the sorority new members, which covered topics like body-image and time management, and an all-Greek Christmas service mixer held Dec. 2 in conjunction with Hanging of the Green and Lighting of the Way.

"This has been an exciting year of changes for the Greek Community," 2010 Panhellenic President and senior journalism and mass communication major Molly Jones said.

Both organizations serve as governing bodies for their respective groups on campus. Within that umbrella, communication is a key element.

"The most challenging part of Panhellenic, as with many organizations, is communication. With so many women under the Panhellenic umbrella it is often difficult to please everyone," Jones said. "We strive to create unity among the chapters and a place for ideas to be shared and goals to be met."

In November, Denny Bubrig was hired as the new director of Greek Life. He brings a total of 12 years of experience with him to Samford. Bubrig's favorite part about working within the realm of Greek Life is the always changing atmosphere and forming strong relationships within the Greek community.

"Samford Greeks are doing a lot of neat things already and I think one challenge over the next year to two years is going to be how we prioritize. There are different things we need to tackle to address challenge areas and the different things we want to tackle as a community to help make Samford Greeks even better than they already are," Bubrig said in regard to immediate issues the Greek community faces.

Bubrig said he sees endless possibilities for the future of the Greek community and an inspiring aspect of those possibilities are the people who are willing to work for those possibilities.

"I see a big chunk of what I do as communicating those possibilities and helping make sure we are all working together on the same page," Bubrig said.

the tradition of Alpha Delta Pi

by Lauren Kostoff

The Kappa chapter of Alpha Delta Pi at Samford University boasted a rich history and long standing traditions. In 2010, The Kappa sisters celebrated their centennial year.

"Kappa sisterhood has an undeniable strength that has spanned for over 100 years," sophomore marketing major Haley Massey said. Massey served as the 2011 Recruitment Vice President for Alpha Delta Pi.

"This group of women is so much more than a few collegians who share the same interests, we are group of 160 zealous young ladies who strive to uphold the guideposts set before us by our founders," Massey said. "Our guideposts include scholarship, high Christian morals, and a heart to serve those in need."

These Kappa women have left a mark on the University's campus since 1910, when the University was Howard College. Kappa kept up with tradition and continued to strengthen their impact on the University community.

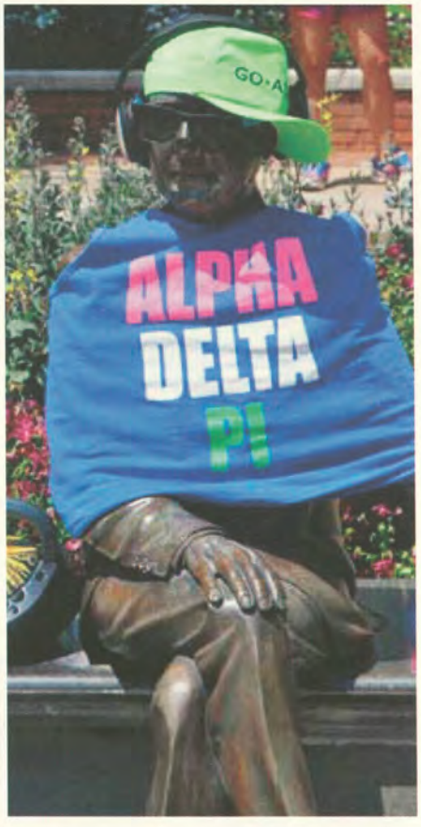
Junior family studies major Brittany Truitt served Alpha Delta Pi as the 2011 President.

"The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi are well represented among Samford students around campus," Truitt said. "There are a variety of girls involved in different organizations from Student Government, Senate, Student Recruitment Team, Connections, Samford Ambassadors, and other clubs and honor societies as well. Not only are the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi members of the various organizations, but also many girls hold leadership positions, giving their time and energy back to the organization."

It is undeniable that the Kappa chapter of Alpha Delta Pi has included campus involvement as a part of their tradition and legacy.

Alpha Delta Pi and sophomore elementary education major Julie Cobb also appreciated and noticed her sisters' impact on the University. "Alpha Delta Pi saturates the Samford community," Cobb said. "Our members hold leadership positions throughout campus and we strive to involve the entire Samford community in our philanthropic events."

The Kappa chapter's involvement within the



University, the greater community, high attention to academics and a host of other achievements has earned them national attention as well.

"Kappa Chapter continues to be awarded The Maxine Blake Golden Lion Award, the highest honor a chapter may receive," Truitt said. "It is awarded each Convention to chapters that excel in all areas of chapter operations and programming for a minimum period of six years."

Besides their focus on excelling in areas of leadership, academics and campus involvement, what these women hold most dear is their sisterhood. Truitt shared some of her perspective on the kind of sisterhood these Kappa ladies cherish.

"The sisterhood of Alpha Delta Pi here at Samford University, is unlike any other. This sorority offers so much more than fun chants and cute t-shirts; it provides once-in-a lifetime opportunities unlike anywhere else. Whether it is studying abroad, strategizing for intramurals, cooking dinner at The Ronald McDonald House, or watching a movie in the front room, our sisters share memories that will last far beyond the four years that we have together in this house," Truitt said. "It is a blessing to be surrounded by such a strong group of women that love and challenge me daily. The friendships that I have made here in Alpha Delta Pi are friendships that will last a lifetime."

Massey shared the same sentiments in regards to the sisterhood this chapter offers. "My life has and forever will be enriched for the better by Alpha Delta Pi sorority and the by the women I call sisters," she said.

The accomplishments of campus involvement, awarded excellence and sisterhood would be maintained for years to come.

"The ambition each one of the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi possesses is impressive," Truitt said. "I expect Alpha Delta Pi to become even more involved on campus by branching out and trying new things. Alpha Delta Pi wants to be more visible on campus than ever, by continuing to incorporate other students in our philanthropy events throughout the year and by participating in even more campus activities. Everyone's ambition for this year is incredible and Alpha Delta Pi will be stronger and even better than before. I cannot wait to see what Alpha Delta Pi will bring to Samford this year."

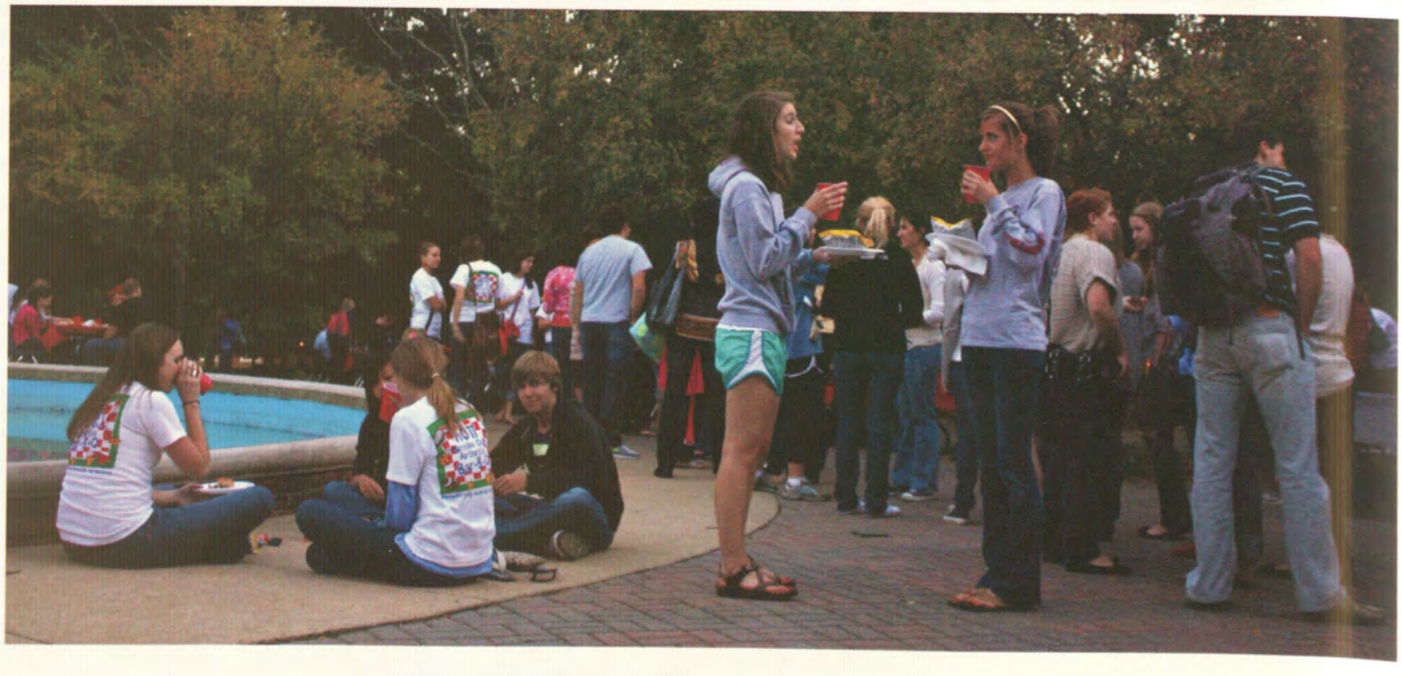
Tradition is something of which the Kappa sisters were in no short supply. The tradition of University involvement, national excellence and sisterhood all came together to create to one unforgettable chapter.

Photos by Meredith McDowell

Top: Sophomore Sarah Seanor chats with an AOPi sister during Squeal.
Photo by Dubose Ratchford

Middle Left: Lauren Brown and Maddie Henderson share a friendly embrace
Photo by Taylor Horneman

Bottom: Students eat BBQ and hang out in Ben Brown Plaza for AOPi's "Smoke Out Arthritis" benefit
Photo by Dubose Ratchford



AOPi
alpha love

by Jackie Long

It was a busy year for the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi, with both fall and spring semesters packed full of different exciting events.

The sisters hit the ground running in Fall 2010, prepping for the fall recruitment that took place in September. After weeks of practices and preparation, the Rho Delta chapter welcomed a new group of girls into their sorority. "We initiated a great class of really individual girls who have added a lot to our chapter," senior English major and former chapter president Maddie Henderson said. After receiving their bids, all the sisters went to local bakery O'Lexa's for their Bid Day party.

Sophomore English major T.J. Moore was one of AOPi's Panhellenic Council representatives and got to see recruitment from a whole different perspective. "I enjoyed being at the front of each house with a big, warm smile on my face as I lined up the girls before they entered the houses," Moore said. "I just loved being there for them and to encourage them in any way that I could, so that they could enjoy their own experience of Rush."

"I honestly love my sisters. We understand and accept each other for our differences. We have a strong group of girls within our sorority who want to make things better."
T.J. Moore

Things didn't slow down for the girls after recruitment ended. Their MTV-themed pledge bash, "I Want My AOPi," was held at the Zoo Lodge and was a fun night for all who attended. The Great Gatsby-themed formal gave the girls a chance to get glammed up and dance the night away at Matthews Manor.

The sisters also hosted a philanthropy event, "Smoke Out Arthritis," a barbeque dinner held in Ben Brown Plaza. All the proceeds went to benefit their philanthropy, the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation. "We had Andrew Toney and Christina Schoerner, who played and sang for a little entertainment," Henderson said, "and we hope to continue this as an annual event."

AOPi also participated in Pi Kappa Phi's War of the Roses during the fall, and they took third place. "I enjoyed participating in the flag football game for War of the Roses," Moore said. "Our coaches from Pi Kapp, Steele Wright and Luke Davis, were a lot of fun. They made our experience all the more enjoyable."

When spring semester rolled around, the sorority leapt straight into Samford's biggest tradition, Step Sing. Their theme this year was "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" with the girls taking a musical spin on the world of housewives. Sophomore education major Sarah Seanor was the choreographer for this year's show and said it was her favorite experience of the year. "It was great to spend even more time with my sisters and encourage them with all the hard work they put into our show," Seanor said. The sisters took home Step Sing's Community Service award once again, continuing their more than ten-year-long streak in that category. The sorority also received third place in the banner competition.

The rest of the spring semester was full of various philanthropic and social events, including an arthritis awareness day in early March, and their annual spring semi-formal on April 16, 2011. The girls also went on a sisterhood retreat at the end of March.

"I honestly love my sisters. We understand and accept each other for our differences. We have a strong group of girls within our sorority who want to make things better," Moore said. "AOPi at Samford is doing big things, and I cannot wait to see what we do next."

Left: Meredith Howard and Augusta Clark share a friendly embrace during a fun Chi O event.

Middle Right: Many of the Chi O sisters join together at the tailgate that preceded the football game.

Bottom Left: The Kimrey family comes to support our Bulldogs before the big game.

Chi Omega
celebrates uniqueness & success

by Stephanie Tuttle

The sisters of the Zeta Zeta chapter of Chi Omega embraced the mix of diversity that is found in their chapter. They showed their different strengths and interests through being involved in various aspects of the campus, in the community, and by embracing all that Greek Life at Samford has to offer. Each and every member had unique qualities, but they all shared a common bond by being Chi Omegas.

Chi Omega members showed their leadership on campus through several different outlets. Sisters were involved in SGA, the Samford Crimson, Young Life, Community Service Council, University Ministries Council, Student Recruitment Team, Orientation and Connections, Samford Ambassadors, and the University Fellows Program, as well as academic honor societies and other organizations. Needless to say, the sisters of Chi Omega had high standards and strived to make a difference on campus in various ways.

This year was another eventful one for Chi Omega, packed full of events beginning with fall recruitment and bid day, tailgates, formals, date parties and mixers, and of course, Step Sing. Chi Omega sisters enthusiastically participated in these events and loved the chance that each of them offered to grow closer and form deeper relationships with each other.

Recruitment and socials were some of Chi Omega's best events like always. Sophomore Krista Fuhrman said one of her favorite memories this year was during recruitment. "I loved hanging out and dancing between rush parties. It was such a good way to forget about the stress of rush parties and just goof off," she said. "Rush reminds me of how thankful I am for the friendships I've made in this sorority."

Although recruitment was a little bit of a stressful time, it was worth it on Bid Day when Chi Omega added a group of New Members to its sisterhood. Sophomore psychology major Clair Buchanan enjoyed Bid Day. "Bid Day would have to be my favorite memory. We get a whole new batch of girls, and it is priceless to see their faces as they run out the door with their bids," she said. "Getting to hang out with them after they pledge and getting to know the new girls is always so much fun."

In the fall, Chi Omega hosted pledge bash and formal. Pledge bash's main purpose was to celebrate the sorority's new members in a fun way, with a different theme and venue than the previous year.

Pledge bash was junior English major Kelsey Boone's favorite event this year. "This year's pledge bash theme was Culture Clash bash," she said. "It fully embodied our sorority with diversity at its core."

Junior journalism and mass communication major Jennifer Taylor said she thought Chi Omega's formal this year was the best one yet. "It was at the Alabama Theater, which was a beautiful venue, and different from where we typically hold our socials," she said.

The sisters of Chi Omega had fun participating in whatever they were involved in, whether it was recruitment, campus activities, intramurals or socials. Chi Omega definitely made its mark on campus, and the sorority looked forward to maintaining its success in the future.

Bottom Right: Senior Terra Garmon, junior Tom Oliver and junior Chi O president Tori Bragg show their joy for ChiO.
Photos by Madison Hall

I Love Phi Mu *My Sisters True!*

by Elizabeth Cassada

between Recruitment, social events, Step Sing, and many philanthropic opportunities, countless activities kept the sisters of Phi Mu Alpha Gamma pleasantly busy this year.

In the summer, Phi Mu held its 2010 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. Senior marketing major Caitlin Graham, who served as the Alpha Gamma chapter's President in 2010, attended this gathering of Phi Mu members from every corner of the country.

"The convention is held every two years to go over Phi Mu National bylaws, review the code of standards, elect a new National Council, and recognize all of the chapters for their excellence," Graham said. "Our chapter received an award for raising the second highest amount of money for Children's Miracle Network (CMN) in two years with over $80,000."

The school year was a time of fun and philanthropy as the girls experienced the exhilaration of Recruitment, initiated new members and were matched up with Big and Little sisters. The fun continued as Phi Mu had formal and themed parties, braved the Ocoee River on a whitewater rafting sisterhood retreat, participated in Step Sing and raised money for CMN.

For its social events, Phi Mu held two parties in the fall and two in the spring. The first was "Craze from the Good Ole Days," at which the girls and their dates dressed up in clothing from past decades. Costumes ranged from Bonnie and Clyde to Corey and Topanga from "Boy Meets World." For the second party, girls slipped into sophisticated formal dresses and guys donned dashing suits and ventured to the elegant Carraway Davie House to dance the night away. In March, Phi Mu had a "T" Party, with an eclectic mix of costumes like Twister boards, toddlers, a tree and tree-hugger, and a tooth fairy and a tooth. Phi Mu's final party of the school year was a classy semi-formal on May 6.

Phi Mu also did a significant amount of philanthropic work. On Halloween, the sisters split into their Phi Mu families to go door-to-door for their "Trick-or-Treat for Pocket Change" fundraiser. In November, a letter-writing campaign to friends and family brought in $29,000 in donations. Phi Mu also held its Annual Children's Miracle Run in November at Veteran's Park, and they raised over $5,000. In April, they had a car wash to raise money for CMN. Phi Mu also had a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen, volunteered at IHOP on National Pancake Day in March, hosted a Maki Fresh fundraiser, raised awareness for CMN at a Samford baseball game, and made weekly visits to the Children's Hospital.
Sophomore economics and finance major Lauren Bates was the 2011 Philanthropy Chair and enjoyed serving in this position. "The best part about being in charge of philanthropy has been seeing how our efforts impact families across Alabama," she said. "For instance, when volunteering at IHOP to raise funds for CMN, a mom whose child had spent time in the Children's Hospital thanked us for all we had done on her way out."

Step Sing was an annual highlight for

Phi Mu. Phi Mu presented a video game-themed Step Sing show with "When Legends Come to Life," depicting the evolution of video games from Pong and Pac-Man to Guitar Hero and Halo. The girls unequivocally grew in sisterly love and had so much fun practicing and performing their show.

For senior religion major Anna Wilgus, who co-directed Phi Mu's show this year, being involved in Step Sing every year has been a positive experience. "My favorite part about participating in Step Sing has been the community. I would never have gotten to know any of the upperclassmen in Phi Mu had I not done Step Sing my freshman year," she said. "After I got involved with choreographing and directing shows, the late nights spent with other girls on committee were priceless."

Wilgus also said she has learned a lot from being a part of Phi Mu in general, such as invaluable leadership skills and when to let go and rely on her sisters.

"I've learned that I cannot do everything by myself," Wilgus said. "Phi Mu has provided not only leadership opportunities but also a community, without which I could not do anything."

Top Left: Seniors Lindsey Turner and Alix Moore enjoyed their last year in Phi Mu.

Top Right: A group of Phi Mus capture their enthusiasm on Bid Day.

Zeta Tau Alpha thinks pink

by Leslyn Bantley

Zeta Tau Alpha's purpose was "to intensify friendship, promote happiness among its members, and to perform such deeds and to mold such opinions as will conduce to the building up of a purer and nobler womanhood in the world." The Delta Psi chapter was devoted to fulfilling their purpose to encourage one another to be themselves, yet challenge each other to strive to be their very best.

"I'm proud of my sorority because we live the Creed and look for the good in everyone," senior family studies major Milcah Kirubel said.

The women of Zeta Tau Alpha definitely made it their goal this year to "think pink." The sorority's goal was to raise money and help their philanthropy, Breast Cancer Research and Awareness. From baseball and basketball games to the Mr. Samford pageant, the women worked diligently to raise money for breast cancer research.

In addition to raising money for their philanthropy, the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha also enjoyed their social functions. To start the year off with a splash, the sisters held their famous Paint Party on October 23 for all the girls, including the newest sisters. The epic party consisted of hundreds of gallons of paint, a paintball field and a great DJ.

Later in October, the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha worked to create a winning float, which attempted to "Terrify the Terriers," for the Homecoming parade. Also in the fall, the girls went to the 755 Club in Turner Field in Atlanta, Ga. for their formal event. Even though it might have been a long trip, the evening was a success with fantastic food and dancing.

"I'm from Atlanta, so going back to Turner Field was definitely the highlight of my freshman year," freshman elementary education major Carly Cate said.

In addition to dressing up well, the girls showed that they also compete well. Zeta demonstrated their strengths during intramurals this year by laying it all out on the field playing flag football and winning soccer and ultimate Frisbee. With the fellow sisters to cheer them on, the Zeta girls gave it their all. "We know that pain is weakness leaving the body," 2010 Zeta athletic chair, sophomore nursing major Emily Buckner, said.

With all the intramurals, philanthropy events and social events, the girls still had time to create an amazing Step Sing show. Zeta's show this year was titled "The Journey," and it retold the story of The Wizard of Oz. Directors and choreographers, senior education major Katy King and junior marketing major Kelly Ray, created an entertaining show with lions, scarecrows and tin men—not to mention Dorothy, played by sophomore education major Lauren Zwolinski, and the Wicked Witch of the West, played by Buckner.

After Step Sing weekend, the women's Pink Out basketball game on February 14 was a great success, and many students attended, despite the fact it was Valentine's Day. Zeta teamed up with Samford Athletics to raise money for breast cancer research. All the fans wore pink to show support and there was a group of representatives from all the other sororities on campus.

Once again, Zeta paired up with Samford Athletics to put on a Pink Out baseball game. On March 29, Zeta's service chairs, sophomores undeclared major Jacie Hill and communication studies major Kathleen Hyland, organized a fundraiser at the baseball game. A breast cancer survivor threw out the first pitch. Zeta sisters passed out pink ribbons, sold key chains and collected donations.

In April, fundraising chairs Allison Cobb, sopho-

more communication studies major, and Marcy Glidewell, junior communication studies major, prepared and directed the 2011 Mr. Samford Pageant, a male beauty pageant. Zeta sisters sold tickets to fellow students to raise money for breast cancer research and awareness and to give everyone a good laugh.

On April 14, contestants competed for the title of Mr. Samford by showcasing their eveningwear, spring break attire, pick-up line and talent. The crowd could not get enough of the talented strapping young men showing off their tuxedos and swim trunks. The men wore everything from long johns as "eveningwear" to a captain costume for spring break. This year, hosts senior nursing major Michelle Payne and junior journalism and mass communication major Leslie Graf announced senior entrepreneurship major and Sigma Nu Kanon Burt as Mr. Congeniality. Sophomore theater major and Sigma Chi Ryan Penney wowed the audience and judges alike with his performance of "Fever" by Michael Bublé. Penney was crowned Mr. Samford 2011.

Zeta's service, however, did not end with their work for their philanthropy. Girls participated in tutoring at alocal elementary schools, visited residents in nursing homes, and went on various mission trips. Members of Zeta Tau Alpha consistently invested their time working for their philanthropy and improving their community.

Photos by Megan Beavers, Caitrin Williams, Paizley Coffey, and Mollie Tyler

Lambda Chi Alpha

promotes campus-wide philanthropy

by Susan Hamm

From recruitment to date parties, Step Sing to formals, 2010-2011 was a big year for the Theta Alpha Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Recruitment began with the popular Cave Man party. Music filled the air as brothers, potential new members and female students from all over campus swarmed the Lambda Chi house for what became a staple of the back to school season.
Recruitment Chair and sophomore biology major Austin Dages was thrilled with the results from this year's events and looked forward to next year even more. "We'll kick things off again with the caveman party coupled with a big name concert and a lot of fun," Dages said. "We just want people to see that we are a brotherhood of diverse and incredible men with the same Christian values and goals."

President and junior finance major Michael MacDermott said Lambda Chi was a diverse fraternity. "Lambda Chi is a diverse group of individuals full of ambition and merit that loves to have a good time," he said.
Three major social events highlighted the fall semester. The social calendar for Lambda Chi kicked off with the Halloween "XXX" mixer.
A semi-annual tradition, the event brings organizations together that maintain the Greek letter "chi" in their title. Sigma Chi, Chi Omega and Lambda Chi members donned their best Halloween attire for an eventful evening outside the Lambda Chi house.
The annual formal was the last of the fall activities. For the holidays, Lambda Chi Alpha hosted a Christmas date party, complete with a White Elephant Gift Exchange.
The spring social season kicked off with an open house Super Bowl party and a number of grill outs. During the spring, the brothers also hosted the annual Charity Volleyball Tournament, semiformal and a number of mixers.

In addition to a full social calendar, Lambda Chi also managed to achieve the highest overall GPA during the fall semester for any men's fraternity and also managed to have the best new member GPA. Unlike other Greek organizations whose houses are maintained by Samford Residence Life, Lambda Chi owns its house. Brothers believe that this contributes to a sense of pride and ownership. "We are proud that this is often referred to as the 'best house on campus," MacDermott said. "We take pride in our house because we care for it ourselves," Dages said.
Lambda Chi Alpha has an open motto that when translated from the original Greek reads "naught without labor." The brothers labored diligently this year to promote philanthropy on campus.
For spring semester, the beneficiary of choice was the American Cancer Society. For the first time in recent history, students on Samford's campus were directly involved with the signature fundraiser of ACS, Relay for Life.

Lambda Chi set lofty goals for fundraising, recruited brothers and fellow stu-

dents to participate and helped to create a meaningful yet fun event.

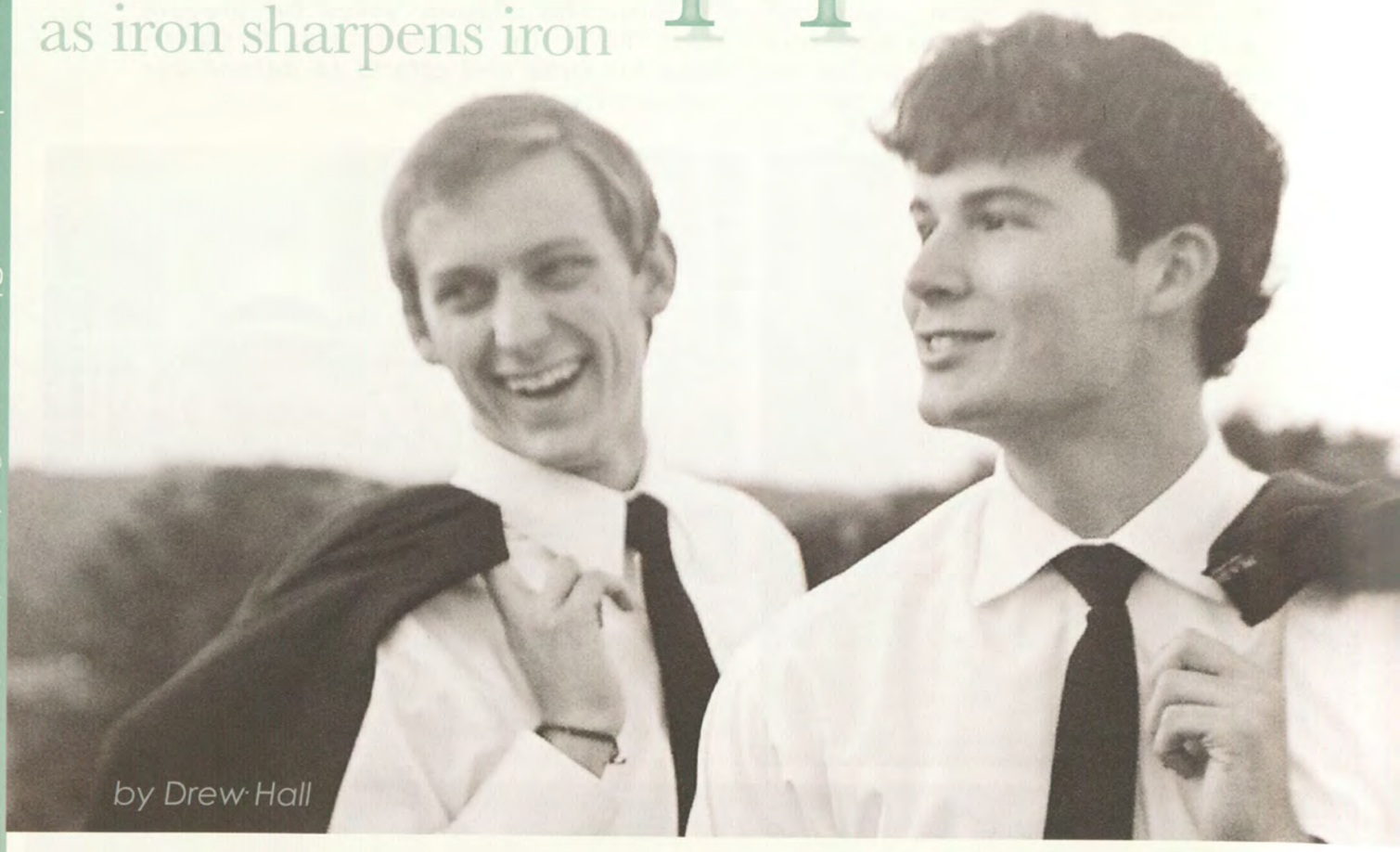
In addition, each member of this fraternity completed a minimum of 10 community service hours each semester. Lambda Chi Alpha national headquarters recognized the Samford chapter for its dedication and awarded the men for excellence in member conduct and chapter management.

Recent Lambda Chi Alpha alumnus, Danny Newman, was deployed to Afghanistan in April. The chapter asked for prayers from the entire community as he sacrificed his time and efforts to defend our nation's freedom.

Bottom: Sophomore Shelton Beard proudly flaunts his stuff during Lambda Chi's Step Sing performance.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Pi Kapp

as iron sharpens iron



by Drew Hall

Diversity brought the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity together. From Recruitment to Rose Ball, the brothers were extremely active across campus and throughout the Birmingham community. They participated in a variety of community service activities, school wide events and organizations, and Greek Life socials. There are many different personalities, backgrounds and interests, but these men are forever bound in brotherhood. 32 bids were signed as the brothers welcomed a new pledge class during the fall semester.

"Brotherhood is still something that I am in the process of learning. I see it as valuing my relationship with every brother in the fraternity and striving to grow closer to each of them," freshman business major and University Fellow Daniel Denning said about his first year experience as an associate and now as a brother.

The new pledge class became a lively cheering section during the fall intramural season when Pi Kappa Phi played competitively during battles against rival groups. During a certain game held at Seibert Stadium, noise from the game rang throughout the entire campus.

A new tradition began in efforts to support the national philanthropy Push America, an organization that raises awareness about mental and physical disabilities that was founded by and is run solely from the efforts of Pi Kappa Phi brothers. While the Alpha Eta brothers continued to partner with the Lakeshore Foundation and held the annual associate member's Push-a-thon weekend, War of the Roses blossomed as the new major source for raising awareness and funds.

War of the Roses was a weeklong event that allowed the University's female organizations

the opportunity to compete in a flag football tournament, a talent show, penny wars and t-shirt sales for the War of Roses champion title.

"This year the brothers raised $4,606, ranking the Alpha Eta chapter tenth nationally out of 155 Pi Kapp chapters for total fundraising during the 2010-2011 academic school year. War of the Roses served as a great opportunity for organizations to come together and support the brothers of Pi Kapp and their philanthropy. Their desire and excitement to serve this cause was so evident, and I was so proud of the success of their event," senior communication studies major and 2010 Pi Kapp Rose Queen Terra Garmon said.

Step Sing is as big or bigger of a tradition for Pi Kappa Phi as it is for the rest of campus. The directors worked hard to put together a show that was just as fun to perform as it was for people to watch.

As the brothers presented "Pi Kappa Phi Does It Live," a weatherman, Tiger Woods and Antoine Dodson intruded on their news set. The show resulted in a third place finish. Pi Kappa Phi won "Sweepstakes" in 2009 and second place in 2010, but junior biology and premedicine major and Step Sing choreographer Nate Sherrer believes that the "Sweepstakes" trophy will return to the Pi Kappa Phi house very soon.

Another area that brings the fraternity great pride and joy are the social events hosted by the fraternity every year. The school year began with the annual Caribbean Party, which entertained over 700 students. The fun continued with the Christmas party, featuring the associate members' live nativity scene, and finished with Barn Bash and Rose Ball.

A few more casual events helped to bring the brotherhood closer together.

"My favorite Pi Kapp event this year was definitely Brotherhood Bowling Night 2011. It was probably the best event Alpha Eta has ever hosted since 1983," junior economics major and Pi Kappa Phi President John Woods said.

While social events are always fun to plan and attend, they will last only as memories following graduation. It is true brotherhood that will last a lifetime.

"True brotherhood bonds men together in such a way that will forever solidify deep commitment and loyalty to one another. A brother is not only someone who is there for you, but a brother is someone who is willing to risk everything for you," senior religion major Rich Havard said. "The formation of that type of brotherhood takes much time and energy, but finding it is worth the journey. I am graduating this year, but I have high hopes for the brothers because the best is yet to come."

Photos by Taylor Horneman

Sigma Chi represents brotherhood

by Lauren Cole

Sigma Chi is one fraternity on campus that focused on making a positive difference with the opportunities to benefit Samford University and the city of Birmingham with the resources that they had here on campus. They demonstrated their servant hood by being involved in many philanthropic events, and they planned various events for the future while representing the brotherhood of Sigma Chi.

Payne McDowell is a sophomore computer science major who was the technology chair for Sigma Chi, heading up Sigma Chi's website and design.

"The fraternity has been an all-around positive experience for me. It is great to have so many guys that are more invested in each other's lives than a greeting as they walk past each other in the hallway," McDowell said.

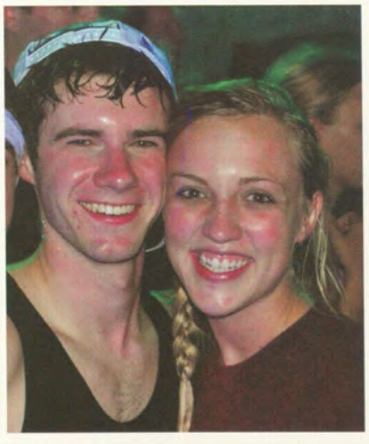
The fraternity as a whole was involved in many intramural sports this year, as well as many other campus activities. Whether it was a freshman pledge who was just entering the Greek Life world or an experienced senior in the fraternity, Sigma Chi provided the relationship aspect and experience of brotherhood that these men were looking for. The relationship that is built through these bonds is something that Sigma Chi was proud to call their own. Freshman business major Trent Little was proud of his decision not only to go Greek, but to have chosen to be a part of Sigma Chi.

"I pledged last semester, and because of it, I grew a lot as a person. Pledge ship taught me what true brotherhood is and what being a man is all about. It also brought me really close to 30 other guys that I hold dear to my heart. As a brother, those relationships continue on and that is what I treasure about the fraternity. Sigma Chi is not about being 'Greek' or being a 'Sigma Chi,' I could care less about that; it is the relationships that really matter to me," Little said.

"It is great to have so many guys that are more invested in each other's lives than a greeting as they walk past each other in the hallway."

Payne McDowell

The relationship that was built through the brotherhood experience seemed to be a common theme throughout the University's Greek life system. The experiences and lessons learned from being a part of this fraternity was something that the men of Sigma Chi Fraternity would never forget.



Top Left: Sophomores Courtney Lawson and Payne McDowell before Semi-Formal.
Photo by Liz Vincent

Top Right: Sigma Chi put on an amazing performance during Step Sing 2011.
Photo by Caitrin Williams

Middle Left: Freshman Dillon McGregor and friends look strapping in bowties.
Photo by Dillon McGregor

Center: Pictured are Ryan Penney and Caitlin Williams.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Bottom Right: Sam Dickerson and some ladies take a quick photo at the foam party.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Sigma Nu
focuses on improvement

by Lauren Cole

The brothers of Sigma Nu put an emphasis on making the chapter gain an even stronger presence on the University's campus. "Sigma Nu had a stern goal of improving operations this school year," accounting and finance major and Sigma Nu treasurer Connor Lowery said.

This fraternity showed their servant spirits through various opportunities such as Habitat for Humanity, Samford Gives Back and Relay for Life. Sigma Nu finished third out of thirty-three groups in raising money in March for Relay for Life, an accomplishment of which the fraternity is extremely proud. Ben Austin, a junior finance and accounting major, served as the President of the Iota Chapter this year.

"The fraternity has helped me to grow as a person and has provided a unique platform for me to get involved in the Samford community," Austin said.

Freshman accounting major Steven Elseroad was the Risk Reduction Chairman and also

"The fraternity has helped me to grow as a person and has provided a unique platform for me to get involved in the Samford community."
Ben Austin

served as the Sigma Nu Pledge Class President for the 2010-2011 year.

"This year I have enjoyed our white trash pledge bash, not participating in Step-Sing, watching our intramural football and basketball teams go undefeated against all other fraternities, and getting really involved in the community," Elseroad said.

Whether a freshman or an upperclassman, it is inevitable that Sigma Nu provides experience and wisdom that will build up character traits for men on Samford's campus.

"The fraternity for me has been an awesome opportunity to grow closer to men striving to know Christ. It has become an outstanding encouragement to me in my personal walk with Christ due to the accountability I have in the fraternity. Many guys in this fraternity have been more than close friends, but they have been brothers to me. They care about me and invest in my life, truly living out the calling God calls us all to," sophomore nursing major David Anderson said. "Being able to have a group of guys as unique and diverse has been a great opportunity to get to know others and truly be forced to step outside of your comfort zone. It has been a blessing for me to get to know these guys at the level I have and been able to truly invest in their lives as they invest in mine, all aiming for the ultimate goal, to know God better and live like Jesus."

Despite the downfalls in Sigma Nu, the men who embody this chapter are striving and learning to be the men God call them to be. The 2010-2011 school year provided them with the experiences and opportunities to serve and wholeheartedly give to their fraternity.

Alpha Kappa Alpha serves *all* mankind

by Craig Kleimeyer

The Omicron Mu chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. enthusiastically served as a top leading organization at the University. The members of Omicron Mu were committed on campus and in the community.

Senior nursing major and president of the Omicron Mu chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Jaz Turner enjoyed her experiences while serving in her leadership position.
"We are especially pleased with the outstanding reputation of Omicron Mu has here on Samford's campus, and on both a regional and national levels," Turner said. "We pride ourselves on possessing all of the characteristics of Alpha Kappa Alpha women, as we honor our heritage of being the first Greek-lettered organization established by African-American college women."

The members of Omicron Mu were busy in the spring with "Service to All Mankind" through some of its signature events: "Pink Pajama Pillow Talk," "Pink Goes Red for a Day," "Trick-or-Treat for a Healthy Body," "Slide into Shape," and "Pamper me Pretty for Entrepreneurship."

"We strive to continually uphold our motto of being a service to all mankind," Turner said.

Junior political science major Denevia Thomas served in the hostess position for Alpha Kappa Alpha. Although she just joined in the fall, she feels like she has been involved with the sorority her entire life because her mom was in the sorority as well.

"It's a sisterhood and a family and best friends and moms and all the female support you could ever need all rolled up in a self-contained on campus unit," she said. "The same is true for the national and international body: while I was in London for the semester, I could get in touch with a sorority member, and she was ready, willing and able to help me."

The Omicron Mu chapter's philanthropy was Sickle Cell Disease. On the "Pink Goes Red Day," all of the sorority members wore red, their rival's color, in support of cardiac health and blood checks.

Sophomore political science and Spanish major and vice president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Hilarie Armstrong joined the sorority in the fall and felt a connection to the philanthropy. "Sickle Cell Disease is near and dear to my heart because it is a disease that affects many African-Americans. Each year our chapter donates and or participates in the Sickle Cell Walk," she said. "This year we are going to participate in the walk and set up a table for kids activities."

Denevia Thomas said she loved the relationships the women form through their service. "I have seen firsthand the hard work that Alpha Kappa Alpha women do and the great strides that can be made when college educated women come together for a common goal. It is really exciting," she said. "I guess I have always wanted to make my mark on the world, and this is the organization that fosters that kind of winning spirit."

Alpha Kappa Alpha's unique sisterhood would be long lasting, Hilaire Armstrong said. "Our sisterhood is for life. Our sorority builds character, leadership skills, and lifelong friendships through our sisterhood," she said. "We learn from each other, encourage and support each other, while lifting up others and being 'a service to mankind.'"

The chapter grew a lot and would continue to grow and make an impact, Jaz Turner said.

"I have loved the impact we have had in our community, our sorority, and on campus," Turner said. "Omicron Mu has made significant growth this school year and it is a beautiful thing to witness and be a part of such growth."

Photos courtesy of Jaz Turner

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Rebel

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Entre Nous | Impact

What is it like to be a student *and* an athlete at Samford?

"Practice takes up a lot of time, and you can't study as much, so it's definitely about finding a balance so that you have time for practice, time for studying, and time for socializing."
Derek Cantrell, freshman history major
-football

"Being an athlete and a student is both a challenge and an honor. We have an opportunity to represent Samford across the conference and across the country, and it's really a testament to our work ethic on the field and in the classroom that we're able to have success."
Dustin Taliaferro, junior business major
-football

"It's hard. People don't realize that playing a sport is like taking a 4-hour class every day."
Austin Storms, redshirt freshman undeclared
-football

"It's a lot harder than people might think cause it's like having a job."
Kaley Blanton, sophomore exercise science major
-women's soccer

"It's great being a student athlete, but something I learned quick is that you have to manage your time wisely."
Hunter Cassity, redshirt senior business major
-football

"When the season comes around, it's definitely a lot tougher balancing school and basketball. They say for every hour of class you're supposed to study for 3 hours, and I'm in the gym for 5 or 6 hours everyday, and it's just tough sometimes to manage your time wisely."
John Peterson, junior political science major
-men's basketball

"I enjoy being a student athlete. It's difficult to balance school and track and field, but it's rewarding to play for such a good team thats well known in the conference."
Leslie Graf, sophomore journalism and mass communication major
-track & field

"Being a student athlete is really challenging because you have to balance school and softball, but in the end it's really rewarding because you get to be a part of a program that no one else gets to be a part of."
Madeline Baker, sophomore elementary education major
-softball

"Being a student athlete is very difficult because of the time management. You have to balance out being at practice and doing it all on the field, and trying to do the same in the classroom, but the benefit is that you get a great education and you get to be a part of something that represents your school well."
Amanda Jordan, senior sociology major
-softball

"You just have to set your priorities straight and manage your time wisely in order to succeed."
John Flaniken, sophomore business major
-tennis

Photo by Lauren Brown

sticking to Tradition

by Susan Hamm

Life at a small school lacks the tradition that often comes with the lore of a larger institution. The traditions at our University may not have been around for decades, but they were no less powerful, and they were the heartbeat of the University's athletics.

This year, Moses himself joined the Red Sea. Designed to create a movement of excitement and passion among students for athletics, administrators and students alike saw the idea as something that has been needed for a long time. The Moses character was established by the newly created "Red Sea Staff" spirit group and was portrayed by sophomore business major Jay Gilmer. Members of the Red Sea were excited to follow such a fearless leader and to get a little rowdy in the name of Bulldog support. "For a long time, there has been a status quo for student support of athletics," Gilmer said. "Moses may very well be the man to change all that."

The Victory Flag was another visible example of support for all athletic teams. In the event of a win, whether at home or on the road, the flag was raised to fly until the next contest. At home games, the flag took special precedence. Sophomore journalism and mass communication major Allison Hubbard, co-captain of the Varsity cheerleaders, was a part of the experience. "A pep rally is held immediately following the game and plays off the excitement of the win," she said. "It is a really special experience to be a part of this tradition."

A more sentimental and personal tradition is that of the #5 football jersey. It is worn by a different player every year to honor former Samford player, Charles Williams. Williams wore the number during his time as a Bulldog and was tragically killed in a car accident. The number was not worn the year after the accident. The year following would have been Williams' senior season, and coaches decided the number deserved to be on the field. Instead of retiring the jersey, coaches at the time believed it would have more meaning to choose a different senior every year to wear the jersey to honor Williams. Since then, coaches have selected young men who display leadership and loyalty to the program and teammates, and who do things right both on and off the field. In 2010, Senior sports administration major Bryce Smith was chosen for the honor. "To be able to represent this jersey this year means a lot to me," he said. "It is a huge honor to be chosen out of the 23 seniors."

2010-2011 marked the end of an era for one of the University's athletic traditions. The 2010 football season was the last season for the English bulldog, Libby, to roam the home sideline at Seibert Stadium. However, the the Bulldogs will have a new canine friend to cheer for in the coming seasons, as an energetic, young bulldog named Rex will become the new on-field companion for Bulldog mascot Spike.

Left: Senior Kayla Burris shows her stuff on the softball field.
Photo by Kasey Strickland

Top: The Bulldog football team huddles together on the field to discuss a play.
Photo by Lauren Brown

The RED SEA

Samford Student Nation

by Lauren Cole

Top Left Sophomore Jay Gilmer dresses up as Moses at a football game and stands with the Red Sea.

Bottom Right Students paint up and lead Red Sea cheers to show their Bulldog spirit.

Top Right Students yell as they cheer on the Bulldogs along with the University mascot, Spike.

Photos by Kasey Strickland

The 2010-2011 school year brought exciting things for Samford's student booster club, the Red Sea. The organization provided opportunities for its 700 members to get involved with Samford Athletics, make new friends and support Samford student-athletes during athletic events. This year, a new student rewards program was implemented to provide prizes to Red Sea members who attended events. Students accumulated points by attending games and received prizes each time they achieved a certain point level. Prizes included Samford athletic gear, gift cards, a VIP experience with a Samford head coach and tickets to a Birmingham Barons home baseball game. The grand prizes were an iPad and a 40 inch flat-screen TV.

"With the Red Sea rewards program, we realized that students would be more enthusiastic about attending sporting events if there was some type of incentive included," senior history major and Red Sea president Kyle George said. "Several schools across the nation implement programs similar to this. We believed that our students would respond positively to this, and it has already produced results in our first year."

The Red Sea's newly created Red Sea Staff spirit group's was present at the games. The group was founded by sophomore business major Jay Gilmer and sophomore journalism and mass communication major Allison Hubbard to raise the level of student support on game days.

"The Red Sea Staff is a group of students committed to being passionate and excited at athletic events and hoping to inspire others from all across campus to do the same. We desire to remove the current status quo of student support for Samford Athletics," Gilmer said. The Staff's passion was most evident at home football games. Members organized themes and attire for each game such as red capes and fire hats, a "red out" and full body paint.

"As a Red Sea Staff member, you are part of the most hardcore fans at Samford. Some

of our members paint up or dress in crazy costumes, such as Moses. It was an absolute blast at the games, yelling until I had no voice left to support our team," sophomore undeclared major Jacob Dyke said.

Programming for Red Sea members, such as pre-game tailgating, priority seating at athletic events and special promotions, was improved this year due to the establishment of the Red Sea Student Committee. Students on the committee helped Athletics Marketing and Community Relations Director Hollie Huey keep students informed about Red Sea activities and volunteered their time to assist with events.

"In years past, there was a lack of leadership in planning events for the students at sporting events," she said. "The Red Sea Committee is comprised of student leaders from all over campus who are committed to making the overall atmosphere of all our home games better." Kyle George said the Rea Sea improvements helped lay the groundwork for future students to continue to increase the level of support for Samford athletics.

"We have taken a lot of important steps this year, and it will be exciting to see how everything continues to develop," George said. "Tailgating has improved by leaps and bounds and has greatly added to the overall atmosphere. It will be fun to come back as alum one day and see a whole new level of excitement around Samford Athletics."

Inconsistency Plagues Bulldogs in 2010

by Dan Hall and Allison Hubbard

"...I hope that the senior class has left a good foundation for the program to grow into the team it can be."
Thomas Gray

The football team entered the 2010 season with high expectations. Boasting 15 returning starters during head coach Pat Sullivan's fourth season at the helm, the Bulldogs were ranked 17th in the Sporting News' Preseason Division I Football Championship Subdivision poll. Unfortunately, the team was unable to live up to the early hype, finishing with a record of 4-7 (2-6 SoCon).

"It wasn't the year that we were all hoping for," senior offensive lineman and public administration major Thomas Gray said. "We play in one of the toughest conferences in the nation, and some things didn't bounce our way, and that happens. I hope that the senior class has left a good foundation for the program to grow into the team it can be."

The season began with a trip to Tallahassee, Florida, as the Bulldogs took on FBS No. 20 Florida State at Doak Campbell Stadium. The team played the game in front of a crowd of 68,438, the second largest crowd ever to see a Bulldog team play. It was the first game for former Samford quarterback Jimbo Fisher as head coach of the Seminoles.

The contest started with some early excitement as senior linebacker and sports administration major Bryce Smith intercepted a pass by Florida State star quarterback Christian Ponder on the Seminoles' opening possession. However, FSU quickly regained its composure and scored a touchdown on its next possession. The Seminoles ended the game with a 59-6 victory.

The Bulldogs bounced back from the tough loss to win their next two games, defeating Northwestern State 19-7 and Newberry 38-35. FCS No. 1 Appalachian State came to town in Week 4 and defeated Samford 35-17. The following week, the Bulldogs traveled to No. 21 Elon and lost 24-19.

Samford won two of its next three games, defeating Western Carolina 38-7, falling to Furman 27-10, and upsetting eventual FCS Playoffs semi-finalist Georgia Southern 20-13.

In the victory over Western Carolina, senior running back and sports medicine major Chris Evans rushed for 131 and three touchdowns. With his impressive performance, Evans also eclipsed the 4,000 yard rushing mark for his career.

The victory over Georgia Southern evened Samford's record at 4-4. However, the Bulldogs closed their season with a three game losing streak with losses to No. 7 Wofford 10-3, Chattanooga 48-14 and last place The Citadel 13-12.

Before the game against The Citadel, Samford recognized 25 seniors and their families for their contributions to the program. Surrendering a late touchdown after leading for most of the game, the Bulldogs were unable to send the seniors out with a victory in their final game.

Head Coach Pat Sullivan was disappointed for his players about the outcome of the game and the season. "I wanted so badly for these seniors to go out with something positive because of all of the things that they've done for this university," Sullivan said.

Despite the disappointing season, players compiled several postseason awards for strong individual performances. Four Bulldogs were named to the SoCon's Coaches All-Conference team, and three were named to the All-Freshman team.

Evans and Smith were named to the First Team, while Gray and senior defensive end and sports administration major John Michael Clay were voted to the Second Team. Freshmen wide receiver and business major Kelsey Pope, wide receiver and undeclared major Quin Roberson and running back and sports administration major Fabian Truss were named to the All-Freshman Team.

The Southern Conference Sports Media Association named six Bulldogs to the All-Conference team. The Association voted Evans, Smith and senior safety and sports administration major Thomas Broussard to the First Team. The Association placed Gray, junior defensive lineman and history major Alex Davis and senior punter and nursing major Bob Hooper on the Second team.

Evans and Smith were also named finalists for national honors. Evans was a finalist for the Walter Payton Award, which is awarded to the top player in the Football Championship Subdivision. He ranked second in rushing in the SoCon this season with 1,106 yards. For his career, he rushed for 4,575 yards. This total made him the all-time leading rusher in Samford football history and in the state of Alabama's college football history.

"Breaking the state record is one of the most memorable things that has happened in my entire career," Evans said.

Smith was a finalist for the Buck Buchanan Award, which goes to the top defensive player in the FCS. He was also named to the Associated Press and Phil Steele All-American teams. Smith finished the season ranked first in the conference and eighth in the nation in total tackles with 129. He led the nation in solo tackles with 85.

In December, Broussard, Clay, Gray, and senior defensive lineman and family studies major Jason Gaines were selected to participate in the Football Championship Subdivision's Senior Scout Bowl in Middletown, N.Y. The game was presented by the Collegiate Development Football League and showcased some of the top senior talent in the FCS.

Top: Running back Chris Evans was voted to the Southern Conference's All Conference team after his performance this season.
Photo by Kasey Strickland

16
51
94
THOMPSON

RUSSELL
CEPHUS
17

Photos by Kelly Prater and Kasey Strickland

Volleyball
finishes an *exciting* season

by Michael Kline

The Samford volleyball team had an exciting 2010-2011 season, despite an overall record of 14-17. For the season, the team played its best at home, winning eight games in the Pete Hanna Center, while only losing five.

The season started strong as the team went 6-3 through its first nine matches. However, the Bulldogs then hit a tough spot in the schedule and lost eight matches in a row. Sophomore undeclared major Alicia Roth, who played as a defensive specialist and libero for the team, attributed the rough start to the youth of the team. "We started out young, and we really needed to find our identity," she said. "After a lot of team bonding, we found out who we were, and the season ended very well."

After the long losing streak, the Bulldogs quickly got back on track, going 8-3 in their next 11 matches. In that run, the team upset three different teams that led the Southern Conference at the time: UNC Greensboro, Furman, and Elon. The Bulldogs lost their final two regular season matches and were defeated by College of Charleston in the first round of the SoCon Tournament.

Despite the Bulldog's overall record, the season was considered as an exciting time for the program, as the team came together and rallied back from a tough beginning to get back to the SoCon tournament.

"I feel like this season went well; we really came together," freshman business major and middle blocker Taylor Palmer said. "Though our record might not show it, we really did learn a lot."

This season was definitely a learning experience for a very young team. "One of the things our coaches wanted us to learn was to have higher expectations for each other," Roth said. "We learned how to hold ourselves responsible for our play."

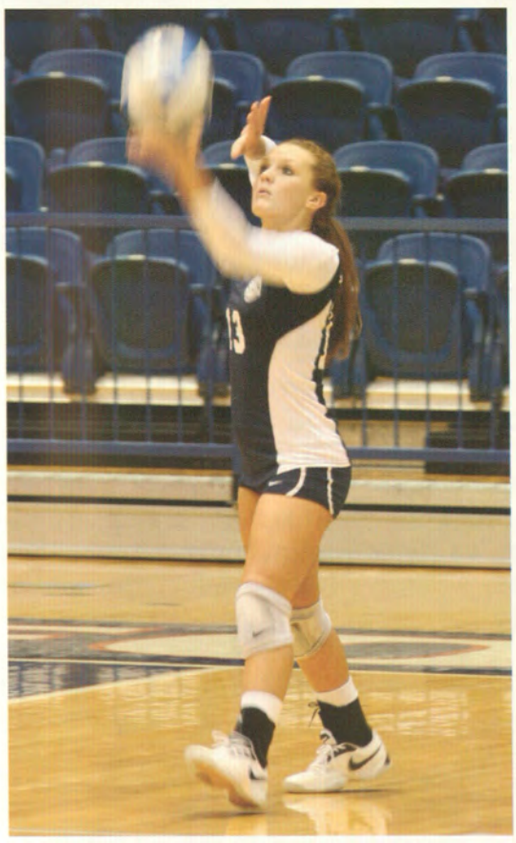
This season has also provided interesting lessons for Palmer. "I learned that no matter how hard things are at practice or at school, I know that I have a team that supports me," Palmer said. "I can pretty much do anything."

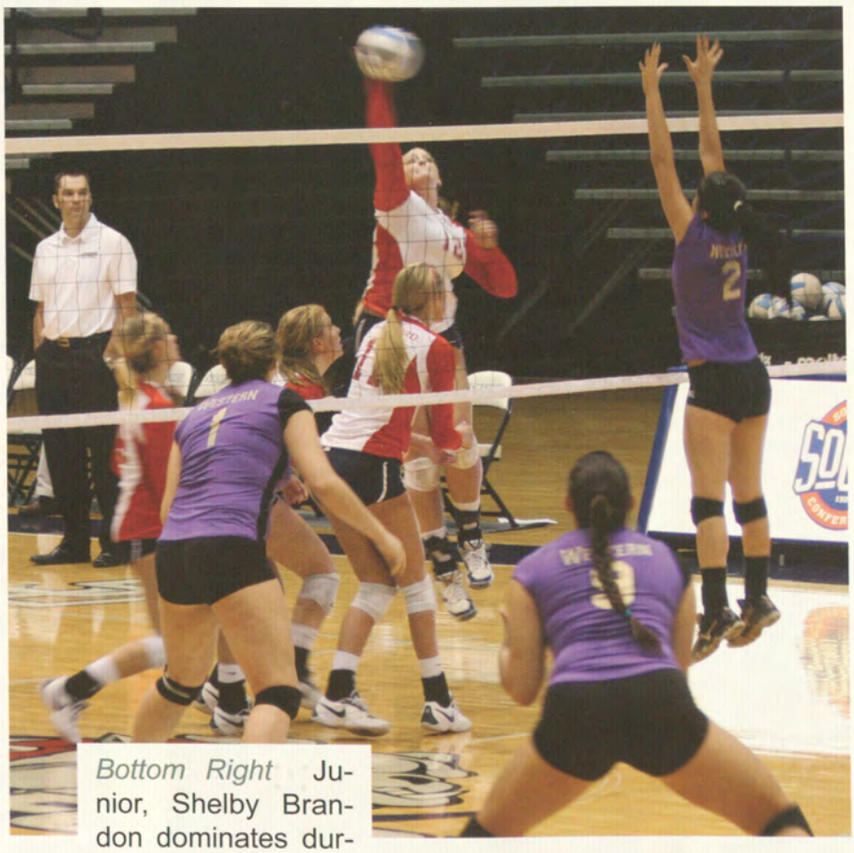
Samford had two players receive All-SoCon honors. Sophomore outside hitter Elizabeth Neisler was named second-team All-SoCon, and freshman middle blocker Katie Murphy was named SoCon Freshman of the Year.

"I am very proud of Murphy and Neisler," head coach Derek Schroeder said. "Both of these players have been battled some injuries this season but have stayed resolute and dedicated. We are very excited about our core of young players, their talent and potential."

Top: The Bulldogs huddle together on the court before beginning the match.

Bottom Left: Sophomore Alexis Bauer serves the ball over the net.





Bottom Right Junior, Shelby Brandon dominates during SoCon.
Photos by Michael Kline

Top Left: Freshman Midfielder Trine Taule goes in for a kick as Junior Forward Sarah Wilkinson gets ready to run down the field.

Bottom Left: Junior Goalkeeper Alyssa Whitehead jumps in the air to catch the ball.

Bottom Right: Junior Forward Sarah Wilkinson controls the ball and maintains possession with her defender at her back.

Photos by Kasey Strickland

Women's Soccer

Competes for Championship in Third Year of SoCon

by Steven Lyles

The Women's Soccer team had an outstanding year and showed their resiliency and determination throughout the season. After falling 0-2 in the conference, the Bulldogs ripped of an 11-game streak in which the Bulldogs did not lose a game and only allowed 6 goals to be scored. The Bulldogs found themselves in their first SoCon Championship game at the end of the season after starting 0-2 in the conference.

"If you look at where we were at the beginning of the season, we had 6 players have season ending injuries, so we had to play some inexperienced players," Head Coach Todd Yelton said. "But the upperclassmen showed a lot of leadership and really stepped up, which allowed the team to play to a high level of play that has come to be expected here at Samford."

"We lost the first two games on corners," undeclared freshman Trine Taule said. "So we started to work hard on defending corners and really focused on working harder to get wins."

The team faced some stiff competition and had to dig deep to pull out some of their wins as they won 2 games in overtime off the foot of junior graphic design major Sara Wilkinson, who scored the game winning goal in both matches. The semifinal match against The Citadel was also a huge game as the Bulldogs had to overcome a 3-1 deficit to come back and win 4-3 to advance to the Championship game.

"The game against the Citadel was big: we were down 3-1 and we just continued to fight back. We proved how determined we were as a team." freshmen education major Michelle Moll said. "We came out of halftime down 3-2 and ended up winning 4-3."

The Championship was a hard fought match against 12th ranked UNC-Greensboro, but the Bulldogs will have to wait another year to reach their goal of making the NCAA tournament. The match was a tough defensive battle and the first half ended with a 0-0 tie. The Spartans came out fighting though and were able to score in the 58th minute. The Bulldogs fought valiantly but in the end were unable to come back and were defeated 1-0.

"I think the Championship game was a good opportunity for us. We were playing UNC-Greensboro, who was undefeated in the SoCon and ranked 12th in the country," sophomore English major Adrianne Mancino said. "Our goal was to make it to the NCAA tournament, but one of our main goals was to even make it to the championship game, and I was really proud of our team."

"Going from the 0-2 start to the conference championship allowed the girls to really see that they can play with anyone," Coach Yelton said. "We played well in the championship game against 12th ranked UNC-Greensboro, and we continue to strive to become a top 50 team."

The play of the team has them in high hope for next season, as a lot of strong players will return from the 2010 squad. The 2011 season looks to be even more successful, which says a lot, as the 2010 team broke the record for the most wins in a season, with a record of 13-6-2.

Men's BASKETBALL

by Matt Galloway

The Bulldogs entered the season needing to replace two of their top three scorers from last year's team. The men were able get out of the gates behind the strong play of junior forward and management major Jeffrey Merritt and senior forward and mathematics major Josh Davis. The Dogs benefited from a deep team. Nine players averaged more than 16 minutes per game and 11 players played in at least 22 of the 31 games played.

"Our strength this year definitely came from our depth," senior guard and management major Gaby Bermudez said. "Every player on the team knew that at some point they were going to be put in the game. If our starters were playing poorly, we had all the confidence in the world in our back-ups." The team focused on being a unit and playing together instead of worrying about playing time and points.

The Bulldogs started off well by beating in state SEC foe Auburn 79-68 in Auburn's first game inside its new arena. Davis and senior guard and management major Josh Bedwell combined for 51 points in the game and connected on 13 of 17 three point attempts. "The Auburn victory meant a lot to us as a team.It felt like we finally got the monkey off of our back for never having beaten a big school from a power conference," Davis said. "It was a great way to start the season for us by getting a big win and having multiple people play good games and everyone being able to contribute in big ways." The Bulldogs proved to own the Auburn Arena by winning against Campbell and claiming the 2010 Global Sports Hoops Showcase tournament title.

"The highest point of our season was definitely the win against Auburn," Bermudez said. "We have heard so many times how we could not contend with major Division I programs, but we went out and beat an SEC school by double digits."

The men continued the hot streak by winning 10 of their first 15 games. They proved that they could go on the road and win games. They were able to take down UTSA in San Antonio, Georgia State in Atlanta.

However, the Bulldogs did face challenges throughout the season. The team lacked height, and the team was consistently outrebounded by opponents. They lost heartbreaking games, in which they had the lead but could not hold on or mounted comebacks that fell slightly short.

Through the last half of the season, the team could not catch a break. The Bulldogs showed resiliency throughout the season though and continued to fight even when they faced challenges. "The team was strongest in intangibles," head coach Jimmy Tillette said. "They worked hard on the floor, had great character and overcame adversity."

Senior night summed up the entire season in one game. The Bulldogs found themselves in an early hole to conference rival UT-Chattanooga. However, the team persevered behind its four seniors, Bermudez, Davis, Bedwell, and center and mathematics major Andy King, and mounted a furious comeback to send the game into overtime, only to fall short by a slim margin.

The team finished the season with the Southern Conference Tournament in Chattanooga. Down by 20 in the first half of their first game to Furman, the Bulldogs flipped a switch and scrapped their way back to cut the deficit to seven points. That was as close as they would get, and their season ended with a first round exit in the SoCon Tournament and a final record of 12-19.

"It was tough to play as hard as we did all season and not see results in the win column," Davis said.

"Nobody likes to lose as much as we did, especially in the first round of the SoCon tournament," Bermudez said. "But, I think we progressed as a whole as the year went on." Overall, the Bulldogs persevered and fought the temptation to quit. They refused to give in, and the team always played until the final buzzer.

Top: Freshman forward and center Drew Windler shoots a freethrow at a game in the Pete Hanna Center.

Bottom Left: Senior center Andy King fights a block by an opponent in order to get a rebound.

Photos by Kasey Strickland

Women's BASKETBALL

for the record

by Cara Beasley

For the first time in the University's history, the Bulldogs earned the Southern Conference championship title and claimed a spot in the coveted NCAA tournament. The Bulldogs concluded the season with record-breaking 25 wins and 8 losses (15-5 in the conference). "This has been a very fulfilling and satisfying season," head coach Mike Morris said. "Our team went through some adversity and climbed a few walls to reach their goal of winning a championship and playing in our first NCAA tournament."

The Bulldogs began the season with wins over non-conference teams like rival Jacksonville State, Clemson and Alabama State. By December, the team shot a school record of 62.8 percent in its win over Central Connecticut State, breaking the previous record of 61.1 percent in 1999.

"For the first time in the University's history, the Bulldogs earned the Southern Conference championship title and claimed a spot in the coveted NCAA tournament."
Cara Beasley

The Bulldogs continued to push their way through the season with key wins over Furman, Elon and Chattanooga. At Furman, senior journalism and mass communication major Emily London broke the school scoring record with 1,605 career points, a record previously set by Alex Munday from 2003-2008.

London attributes the success of team to the Bulldogs' attitude "to get on the same page."

"It was a season of adversity," London said. "We had a lot to overcome, and we did that exceptionally well." Savannah Hill, a senior nursing major, accredits past experiences to the team's success. "Last year, we all experienced how it felt to lose in the championship game. Then, we experienced how it felt to beat a really good team in the NIT. We knew if we could beat a good SEC team, (Ole Miss) we could win our conference," she said. "We had something to prove this year."

The team finished the regular season with a first-ever win at UNC Greensboro and improved its regular season record to 22-7. The Bulldogs advanced to the SoCon tournament as the number two seed for the third-straight season.

Coach Morris recognized the seniors' influences on the team as one of the factors of advancing to the championship. "Every successful team starts with great leadership," he said. "Our two seniors Emily London and Savannah Hill both provided great leadership and the "will" to win. They wanted their legacy to be a championship legacy."

In Chattanooga, Bulldogs ultimately faced off top-seeded Appalachian State for the SoCon title. Junior business major Paige Anderson led the team with 14 points with Hill adding 13 points and London with 12 points. Sophomore nursing major Hannah Dawson

contributed nine points. The Bulldogs closely trailed the majority of the game but put up a fight with the Mountaineers in one of the fiercest battles of the season.

With 18 seconds left in the game, Anderson sunk a three-pointer, giving the Bulldogs a lead of 55-54, their first since the middle of the opening half. Freshman exercise science major Shelby Campbell added two free throws to seal the win for the Bulldogs, allowing the team to take home the well-deserved SoCon championship title. This win earned the team a bid to the NCAA tournament, its first in the program's 14-year history.

"When I knew we were going win, I almost could not contain my excitement," Hill said. "I was smiling and was almost in tears before the game was over. I was so proud of our team and what we were about to accomplish."

Hill was named the SoCon Tournament's Most Outstanding Player and recognized on the All-Conference team. With 1,539 career points, she ranks second on the team and third in the Bulldogs' scoring history. The 6-foot-3-inch senior also leads the team and ranks third in the conference in assists, with over four per game. In addition, Hill was the team leader in rebounding with an average of 6.2 rebounds per game. London, also named to the SoCon All-Conference team, earned the title of SoCon's Player of the Year. In addition to holding the all-time scoring record in Bulldog history with 1,760 career points, London leads the country in free throws with a percentage of 93.2 percent. She also ranks second in the nation by hitting 49 percent of her three-pointers. Campbell earned a place on the league's All-Freshman team. She played in all 29 games in the first season of her college career. In addition to averaging five points per game and ranking third on the team in assists, the freshman guard managed to collect 27 steals this season. The 2010-2011 season concluded in a 76-46 loss against third-seeded Florida State in the NCAA tournament at the Auburn Arena. With an overall shooting percentage of 26.9, the Bulldogs fought hard to obtain the lead, but fell short when the Seminoles landed a last-second three-pointer, leaving the score at 34-21 at the half. FSU continued their lead during the second half, despite the Bulldogs' scoring efforts. Regardless of the team's loss, London describes her NCAA tournament experience as a chance of a lifetime. "It's been a dream of mine since I was a little girl," London said. "I couldn't ask for a better year."

Top: Sophomore forward Hannah Dawson helps set up a play on the court as other players get open.
Photo by Megan Stenner

Baseball

Heavy Hitters *power* Bulldogs' *success*

by Steven Lyles

The Baseball team came off a terrific season last year determined to be the top of the Southern Conference. With a great pitching staff and a strong core of reliable batters, the Bulldogs were a force with which to be reckoned.

One of the more memorable games of the season was the Bulldogs' late win over Auburn in the 10th inning. Senior accounting major Andrew Jones was awarded with the win as the Bulldogs improved to 30-19 on the season. The Bulldogs star transfer and junior sociology major Saxon Butler went 3-3 against the Tigers and hit his ninth home run of the year. The Tigers and the Bulldogs fought a tough game that needed an extra inning to be settled, but the Bulldogs won the tight game 9-8 after Phillip Ervin hit a single down the right field line that allowed Michael Johnson to score in the bottom of the 10th inning.

"Each of us players couldn't do anything we do without each other"
Saxon Butler

"It was a big win for us, we played well," Jones said. "We hit the ball well and we gained confidence from that. Confidence is big at that time of year, because everyone is starting to get tired, but if you have confidence in your ability to get the job done, that really goes a long way."

The Bulldogs went 4-1 against Alabama, UAB and Auburn this year with the Crimson Tide handing the Bulldogs the loss when they split the series on their trip to Joe Lee Griffin Field. Alabama narrowly defeated the Bulldogs 7-5 on a controversial play at the plate. Butler also had 3 hits and a home run in this game for the Bulldogs. The loss broke a 4-game win streak that Samford had over the Crimson Tide.

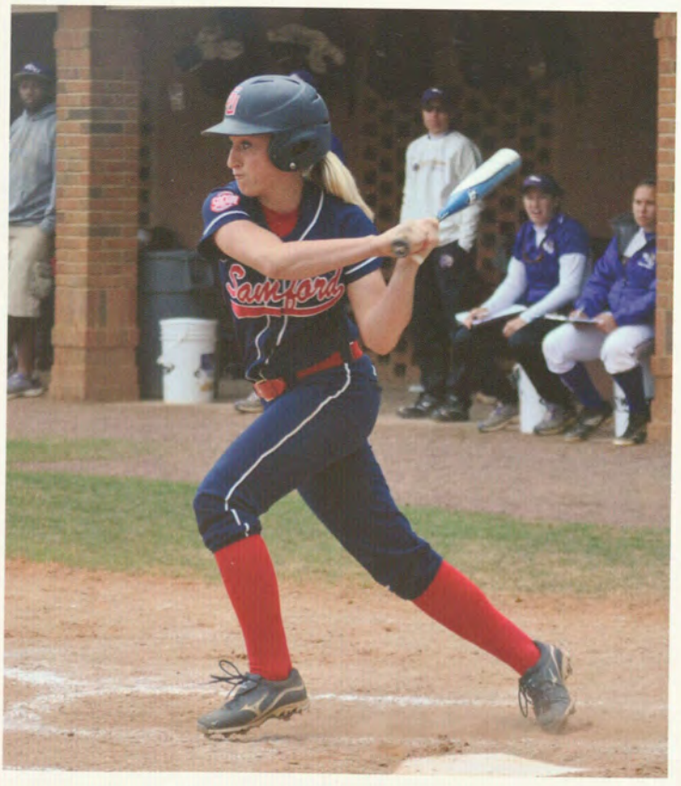
"We played a good team in front of a good crowd, but we played poorly," head coach Casey Dunn said. "We failed to execute some things. We made four errors on the scoreboard and probably several more than that. It's frustrating for our kids who know they are capable of better baseball than they played tonight."

But the Bulldogs played extremely well with a 15-10 SoCon record. They were 31-19 and got a lot of production out of their starting lineup. The Bulldog bullpen played well this season with Jones recording a school record 12th save over Wofford on May 13, 2011. Saxon Butler provided the Bulldogs with some much needed offensive firepower. Butler even hit two grand slams in consecutive days against Georgia Southern in mid-March. After this performance Butler was named the national hitter of the week by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers' Association.

"Each of us players couldn't do anything we do without each other," Butler said. "If you hit three solo home runs, you're not going to win the game."

The Bulldogs looked to continue with such success as they headed into the Southern Conference Tournament at the end of May.

Photos by Kasey Strickland



Softball

played a promising season

by Michael Kline

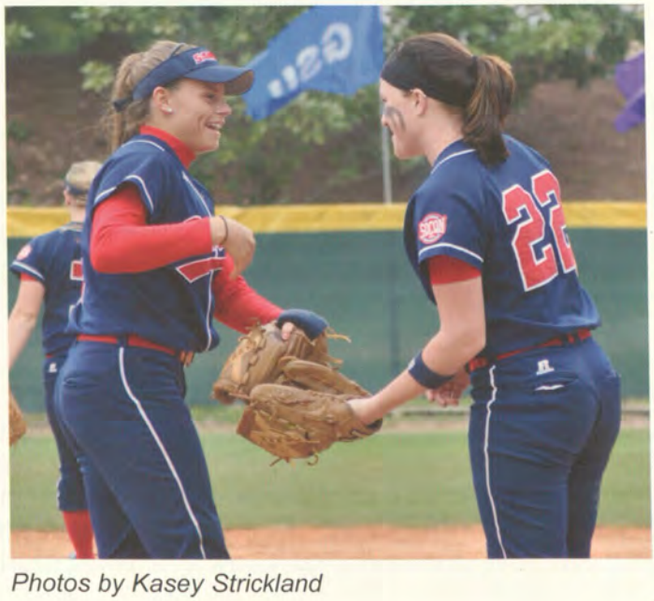
The Bulldog Softball team had an exciting and promising season, despite what their 13-48 record might indicate. The team began the season with the hire of a new head coach, Stephanie VanBrakle. With a pitcher who made the all-freshman SoCon team: Nicole Bobrowski, and five excellent seniors: Kayla Burris, Aaren Fisher, Amanda Jordan, Allison Reynolds and Whitney Terry, the team had some impressive wins and looked forward to a promising future.

The year began in a disappointing fashion for the team, as they dropped their first three games. However, despite the early losses, the team still did gain three impressive non-conference wins, including two against Alabama State and one against Central Arkansas. Then the team went on to gain 9 of their wins in conference against Furman, Western Carolina, Georgia Southern, Elon and College of Charleston.

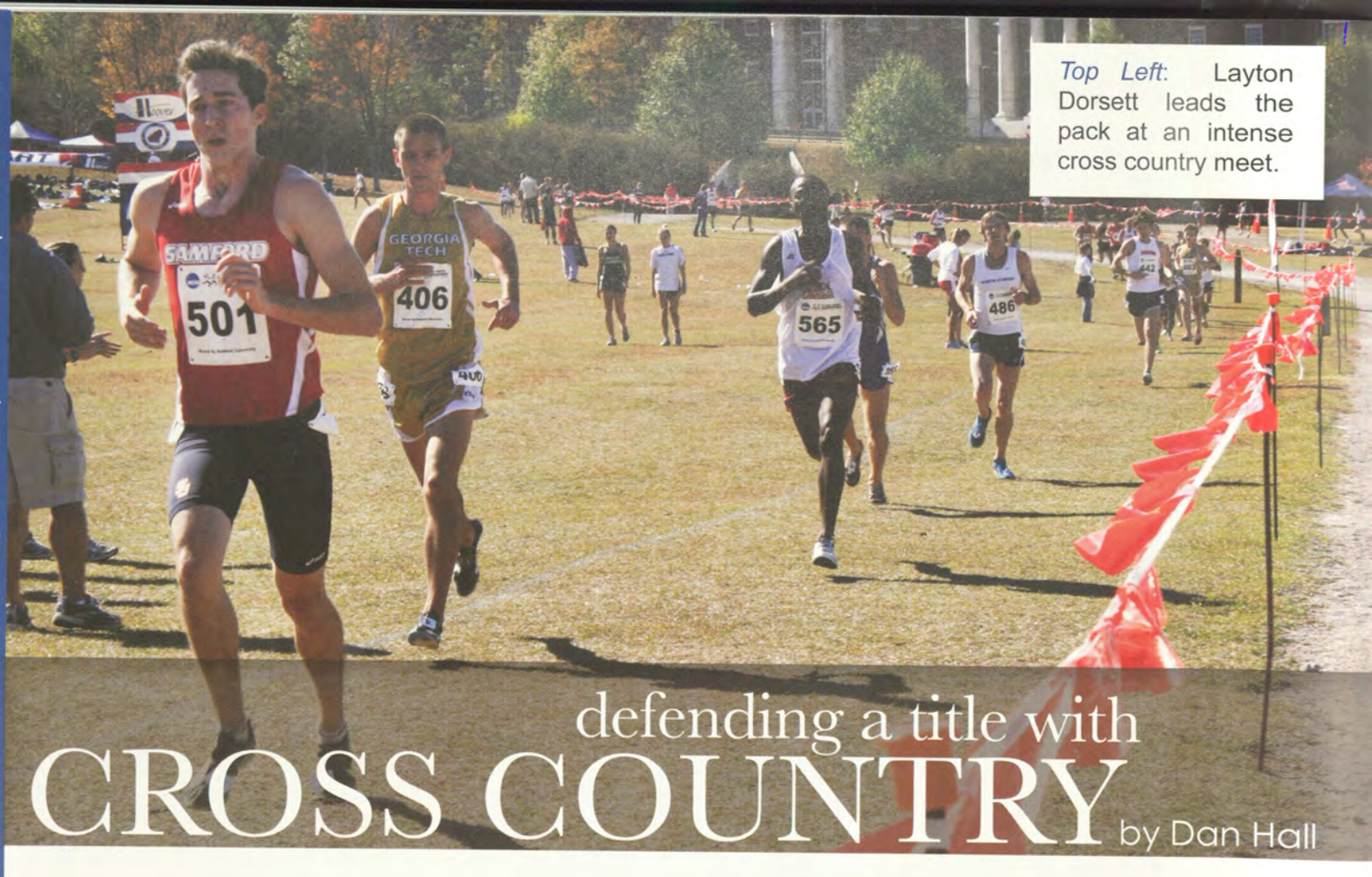
"Getting a new head coach is a tough role. You've been here for three years and you are kind of set in your ways, and it's not easy to change everything- your swing, your fielding, everything," Head Coach Stephanie VanBrankle said. However, despite the tough start, the team began to come together at the end of the season and even won their first SoCon tournament game as a 7 seed against the 2 seed Appalachian State. "We began playing together as a team," senior fine arts major Kayla Burris said after the Bulldogs beat last year's SoCon tournament champion, Elon.

The season ended in exciting fashion, and the next year looked even more promising. With three upcoming seniors in Tessa Frates, Robyn Harmon, and Regan Bates and all-Socon freshman in pitcher Nicole Bobrowski, the team would have a good balance of experience and talent. One of those upcoming seniors, Robyn Harmon, was also one of their leaders in RBI's and home runs. One of their freshmen, Lakan Smith, was also one of the leaders in RBI's.

There is no doubt that this team developed and progressed, with their second SoCon tournament appearance, and an improbable upset of an excellent Appalachian State team that had swept them in the regular season. The Bulldogs played UNC Greensboro in the second round of the SoCon tournament. The Bulldogs felt confident heading into the game, with Burris on the mound ready to help her team advance. But the Spartans were just too much to handle as they defeated the Bulldogs 4-1, sending the Bulldogs to the consolation bracket. The team did better than most expected them to in the tournament, and they hoped to have a strong season next year as VanBrankle would return for a second season to lead the Bulldogs.



Photos by Kasey Strickland



Top Left: Layton Dorsett leads the pack at an intense cross country meet.

defending a title with CROSS COUNTRY

by Dan Hall

When the Southern Conference released its preseason cross country coaches polls, the Samford women's cross country team was predicted to claim the 2010 Southern Conference Championship. With several key returning runners from the 2009 Southern Conference Championship squad, the Bulldogs entered the 2010 season with high expectations to win their second consecutive conference title. At the Southern Conference Championship meet in Boone, North Carolina, the team successfully defended its crown, posting a score of 71 points to lead the 12 team field. Samford narrowly defeated host school Appalachian State, which finished second with 74 points. UT-Chattanooga placed third.

"Our women ran awesome," Samford head coach Rod Tiffin said. "I think we really showed the strength of our program. Not only did our front runners run great, but our middles and our back runners all ran great. The girls really went out and showed that they are the champions that everyone thought they would be this year."

Sophomore nutrition and dietetics major Lauren D'Alessio led the team, placing second overall with a time of 17:48 for the 5K course. D'Alessio was followed by senior nursing major Hillary Neal, who placed third overall with a time of 17:50. Senior nutrition major Ina Ables posted a time of 18:25 to place ninth overall. D'Alessio and Neal were named to the All-SoCon First Team, while Ables earned Second Team honors.

"It's really awesome to win two conference championships, and as a senior, it was great to go out with a bang," Neal said. "We had a lot of fun, and we really worked together as a team to get this far."

Red-shirt sophomore nutrition major Deanna Zidar posted a time of 19:00.55 to place 23rd, while junior interior design major Alli Keithan grabbed 34th place

with a time of 19:15.67. Freshman education Claire Grogan finished 42nd with a time of 19:23.77 to earn a spot on the All-Freshman, and sophomore nursing major Holly Benson rounded out the Samford field in 69th place with a time of 20:13.47.

At the conclusion of the race, the women knew the final standings between Samford and Appalachian State would be close, and they anxiously awaited the announcement of the winner.

"It was very emotional for me and for the entire women's team," assistant distance coach Lori Strand said. "We weren't sure if we had run well enough to finish first, so we were floored when coach Tiffin came in the tent and told us we won. It was a great feeling."
Lauren D'Alessio said it felt great to win a conference championship for the second time.

"It's really special when you are here with these girls and you've worked so hard all season and you just get to go out there and show everyone what you're about," D'Alessio said. "We just went out there and did our best, and it was enough."
In the men's race, Samford finished ninth overall. Appalachian State won its seventh consecutive Southern Conference title, while UNC-Greensboro placed second and UT-Chattanooga finished third. The men placed 10th at the 2009 SoCon Championships, so the coaching staff was proud to see improvement.

"The guy's race went much better than last year, so that's all I can ask for right now," Strand said. "The guys on the team this year have a lot of heart and want to improve, so it is only going to get better from here."

Freshman nursing major Layton Dorsett led the Bulldog men and finished 34th with a time of 26:11.13 for the 8k course. Dorsett earned a place on the All-Freshman Team. Senior biology major Scott Cope finished in 41st place with a time of 26:34.14, and freshman business major James Graham took 50th place with a time of 26:51.12. Freshman pre-engineering John Gayle clocked a time of 27:02.06 to take 55th place while sophomore communication studies major Ramsey White (27:41.32) and freshman sports administration major Henry Stevens-Carty (28:14.16) rounded out the Samford field in 68th and 76th places, respectively.

Cope said the meet provided an opportunity for his younger teammates to gain valuable racing experience that will benefit them later in their careers.

"We had four freshmen and one sophomore compete for us. I think the younger guys had a great learning experience of how tough the competition in the SoCon really is," Cope said. "I believe if Coach Tiffin keeps up the recruiting of good athletes, such as our freshmen, then the guys side will continue to see improvement."

Top Left : Signifying their unity, the Cross Country girls form a huddle before their events.
Photos by Megan Scott

Track & Field

by Dan Hall

2011 was a landmark year for the Track & Field program. In February, the men's team placed third at the Southern Conference Track & Field Championships, and the women's team placed fifth. Five new school records were set during the meet. In April, the University dedicated its new track and soccer complex with a special ribbon cutting ceremony before hosting the 2011 Southern Conference Track & Field Championships. The complex included a nine-lane track with a regulation soccer field inside the track, grandstands with seating capacity of 1,200, a 300-square-foot press box and a 5,000-square-foot support building which would house concessions, a ticket booth, restrooms, storage and locker rooms.

"We are proud to have this front porch on Lakeshore Drive," athletic director Martin Newton said. "It will contribute to helping Samford student-athletes compete at the highest level in the Southern Conference." During the two day conference championship meet, University athletes christened the new facility by earning five individual conference championships, five school records and one Southern Conference record. In the overall team standings, the men's team placed third to Appalachian State and Western Carolina, while the women's team placed fourth behind Appalachian State, Western Carolina and Elon. At the conclusion of the meet, head coach Rod Tiffin was named Southern Conference Men's Outdoor Track and Field Coach of the Year.

"Overall, we were happy with our performance, although we had hoped for top three finishes on both sides," Tiffin said. "The majority of our athletes performed admirably. The pressure of hosting the first meet in our brand new facility built up, but they handled that pressure very well."

Sophomore exercise science major Brandon Bassett was a standout performer for the men's team. Bassett took first place in the men's decathlon and set a new Samford and Southern Conference record with 7,040 points. Bassett set personal bests in six of the 10 events and set a school record in the long jump (22-09). In addition to taking first in the decathlon, Bassett also placed second in the open javelin competition.

"I feel honored to hold the SoCon record, but I'm more pleased with the fact that I set a goal for myself and was able to reach it this season," Bassett said. "My teammates and coaches helped me get prepared for the meet by pushing me through practices and believing in me."
In the field events, the men's team took all three spots on the podium in javelin and pole vault. Junior political science major Thomas Oliver took first place in the javelin with a school record of 208-10, followed by Bassett in second place (197-08) and sophomore undeclared major Ryland Robbins (196-06).

In the pole vault, junior communication studies major Michael Seaman took first place with a mark of 16-06.75, graduate student Patrick Wells placed second with the same mark but in more attempts, and freshman business major Owen Wagoner finished third with a jump of 15-11.00.
Other top performers for the men's team were senior biology major Blaise Carie, who set a school record and placed second in the 3000 meter steeplechase (8:59), senior finance major Kyle Kirby, who placed second in weight throw (189-10) sophomore business major Tyler Kemp, who placed third in high jump (6-08.75), freshman sports administration major Henry Stevens-Car-

ty, who placed third in the 800 meter run (1:51.71) and senior religion major Chris Davis, who placed fourth in shot put with a school record throw of 50-01.

Freshman exercise science major Ashley Cope led the way for the women's team. Cope took first place in the heptathlon competition and also placed third in the open pole vault. Cope set personal bests in six of the eight events in which she competed. "It was awesome to win the heptathlon and very surprising considering I suffered a wrist fracture from pole vaulting earlier this year which limited my training," Cope said. "As a freshman, I really didn't have any expectations. I just wanted to go out there and perform my best."

In the 800 meter run, senior nursing major Hillary Neal placed first with a time of 2:10.52. During her four year career at the University, Neal won eight individual conference championships and set school records in five events.

In the 10,000 meter run, senior nursing major Jillian Klassen took second placed with a personal best time of 36:46.
The meet had special significance for 16 seniors who were competing in the first home meet of their Samford careers.

"When I was running I had the mentality 'this is my home track,'" Carie said. "Running in front of the home crowd fans gave me extra motivation and representing Samford meant more to me at this meet than at any other meet before."

Left: Michael Seaman, Patrick Wells and Owen Wagoner place for pole vaulting at the SoCon Championships.

Top Right: Sophomore sprinter Leslie Graf races opponent.
Photos by Tim Foote

Men's TENNIS

by Dan Hall

Playing with a combination of newcomers and seasoned veterans, the men's tennis team produced a championship season in 2011. The team was led by senior marketing major Carl Abalos and senior finance major Oliver Reynolds.

"Carl and I took over the leadership role on the team and that helped because we knew the pressure that everyone was under," Reynolds said. "This year, we helped some of the younger guys know what we were trying to go towards and trying to accomplish here."

In addition to Abalos and Reynolds, key contributors for the Bulldogs were junior biology major Carson Kadi, sophomore sports medicine major Zac Dunkle, sophomore interior design major and Auburn transfer Alexander Sajonz and freshman journalism major Fernando Costa. Costa, who played primarily at the No. 5 singles position for the University this year, was named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team at the conclusion of the season.

"Our team seems to play its best when their backs are against the wall and they definitely thrived on the situation this week. We were able to beat three great teams in the tournament."
Kemper Baker

The team started the season hot by winning seven of its first eight matches. The Bulldogs did not drop a point in five of those seven victories. After losing two straight to Columbus State and UNC-Greensboro, the team rebounded by winning four straight matches by a combined total of 28-2. The Bulldogs finished the regular season with a solid record of 16-6 (6-4 SoCon) and earned the No. 5 seed in the Southern Conference Tournament.

The Bulldogs faced No. 4 seed Appalachian State in the first round of the Southern Conference Tournament and defeated the Mountaineers 4-2. The team moved on to face No. 1 seed Elon and upset the Phoenix 4-1. The Bulldogs dropped the doubles point but received singles victories from Kadi, Reynolds, Sajonz and Costa.

With the victory over Elon, the Bulldogs advanced to the championship match and swept College of Charleston 4-0.

The Bulldogs won the doubles point and received singles victories from Kadi, Reynolds and Abalos.

With the three tournament victories, the Bulldogs defeated three conference opponents it had lost to during the regular season.
"Playing in the postseason is a lot different than playing in the regular season," head coach Kemper Baker said. "Some teams play better when the pressure is on them, while others don't necessarily handle the pressure that well. Our team seems to play its best when their backs are against the wall and they definitely thrived on the situation this week. We were able to beat three great teams in the tournament."

Kadi, the Bulldogs' No. 1 singles player, was named Most Outstanding Player of the tournament.
"Carson epitomizes our team," said Baker. "He lost a lot of tough, close matches in the regular season this year, but once the post-

season started he was able to break through that and get some huge wins for us. He defeated three All-SoCon Players in consecutive days."

"We were not the same team in the SoCon tournament that we were at the middle of the season," Kadi said. "I feel like we got our head on our shoulders around mid-season and decided we had a chance to really win big, but we had to really raise our level of energy and work to that of our opponents. We did it, and it felt unbelievable."

After claiming the SoCon Tournament title, the Bulldogs clinched an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament. This marked the team's second NCAA Tournament appearance in the previous four seasons.

The Bulldogs drew a first round matchup with Georgia, the No. 6 ranked team nationally. Despite a strong effort , Georgia won 4-0 and ended the Bulldogs' season.

Photos by Caroline Summers

Women's TENNIS

by Jay Harper

Prior to the start of the spring 2008 season, arguably the strongest recruiting class in Samford Women's Tennis history set some lofty goals for the upcoming season, as well as their newly minted careers. That freshman-laden team went on to finish conference play undefeated and earn an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament.

The 20ll edition of Samford Women's Tennis looked largely the same. Led by senior economics major Taylor Morgan and senior accounting Andrie Meiring and redshirt juniorsmarketing major Rebecca Kirven and senior economics major Lindsey Mallory, the Bulldogs entered the season with high expectations. Those expectations were put to the test early in the fall, as Samford played host to some of the best women's tennis teams in the country during the ITA Southern Regionals. The Bulldogs were matched against players from Alabama, Auburn, Mississippi State, Ole Miss, LSU and other top programs.

"Hosting such a tournament is a true testament to what Samford has to offer in terms of our facility," women's coach David Vest said. "We were asked to host the tournament by the ITA, so Samford is definitely on the map in terms of being a well-respected tennis program with quality facilities." The Bulldogs performed well over the course of the weekend, with sophomore business major Emily Mallory reaching the championship of her bracket, and both Meiring and Morgan notching singles victories over nationally ranked opponents.

Looking to maintain their momentum, the Bulldogs began the spring season on fire, going undefeated through their first six matches. The most notable of the six victories was a decisive 6-1 home win over the University of North Florida, the 70th-ranked team in the nation. The following week, the team achieved their first goal of the season, entering the ITA national rankings at 74th – the first national ranking in program history. "Entering the national rankings was definitely the highlight of the season for me. It had been one of our goals since freshman year, and to finally achieve that during senior year was great" said Meiring of the feat. Improved competition in the conference saw the Bulldogs fight week after week to remain in the top tier of the talented Southern Conference. After suffering close losses at UNC-Greensboro and College of Charleston, the Bulldogs battled to a heart breaking loss in six-hour marathon match against rival Furman. Determined to secure a first-round bye in the SoCon Tournament, the team won its last four conference matches, conceding a combined three points in the process. The team earned the four seed in the tournament and defeated Chattanooga in the quarterfinal round to earn a re-match against top-seed College of Charleston in the semifinals. The Bulldogs fell behind early, losing the doubles

point and were unable to recover in the singles, finishing their season.

While the team's season seemed to come to a premature end, they closed out 2011 being recognized for their accomplishments on the court. Compiling an 18-5 record, four Bulldogs received post-season SoCon honors. Taylor Morgan garnered First Team all conference in both singles, as well as doubles with partner Lindsey Mallory, while Mallory, Andrie Meiring, and redshirt freshman and interior design major Kristin Lewis were named to the Second Team for their singles performance. Lewis was also named to the SoCon All-Freshman team. Looking back on the past four years, Vest was both grateful for the careers of his graduating seniors, but also optimistic for the future. "Taylor and Andrie were a huge part of our recent success, and their efforts will serve us well in the future," Vest said.

Left: Tennis team members gather together for an encouraging chat before the matches begin.

Top Right: Freshman Kristin Lewis was named to the All-SoCon Freshman team.

Bottom Right: Junior Lindsey Mallory focuses on winning her singles match.

Photos by Taylor Horneman

Men's GOLF

by Steven Lyles

The Men's Golf team went through many ups and downs this season. The team was young, but with some experienced sophomores returning, the team showed up and played like they had something to prove. The team had strong finishes in their own Samford Invitational with a seventh place finish along with strong ninth place finishes at the JSU Intercollegiate and the Wofford Invitational. The season culminated with a fantastic finish at the Southern Conference Championships in Florence, S.C., where the Bulldogs finished fourth.

"We just had to persevere through everything," sophomore marketing major Gabe Hyde said. "Everything we work for is for conference, so we just had to keep our head and stay positive and it payed off."

The Bulldogs were tied for first with Georgian Southern and Chattanooga after day one behind the magnificent shooting of sophomore sports administration major Casey O'Toole. O'Toole shot a 69, which was good enough to be tied for third as they headed into the second day of competition.

The Bulldogs did not let up on day two of the tournament as the team turned in their second consecutive sub-300 round, which left the Bulldogs in third place behind Chattanooga and Georgia Southern. O'Toole was tied for first at the end of day two with a score of 140 over two rounds. This was a great start for O'Toole, who had been gaining confidence as the season progressed.

"We really struggled throughout the year, but we just kept working hard and didn't make any excuses," O'Toole said. "A lot of people didn't even think we had a chance to compete at conference, but we did, and I think a lot of that is because of the hard work we put in throughout the season when things weren't going the way we wanted them to."

The conference tournament ended with UNC Greensboro vaulting over Chattanooga and Samford to come in second, leaving the Bulldogs with a fourth place finish. O'Toole shot 216 over 54 holes to lead the Bulldogs and come in eighth individually.

"We know now that if we play up to our abilities and just focus on our games we can compete for a SoCon title," O'Toole said. "The talent has always been there. I just think this year really showed us that we belong."

With the future looking bright for the young Bulldog golfers, their head coach, Woodie Eubanks, came away as the SoCon Coach of the Year. Eubanks started a senior and four sophomores and came away with an impressive fourth place tournament finish.

"I am honored to receive this award from the SoCon, especially when it comes from your peers," Eubanks said. "The SoCon is a strong conference in golf and I am thankful to have the opportunity to coach in this great league."

The future looked bright for the Bulldogs as they would return with the majority of their young team, looking for a conference championship.

Women's GOLF

by Molly Jones

The Bulldog women's golf team was well represented in the Southern Conference this year. There were six women on the team: junior Spanish major Sarah Butts, sophomore political science major Anna Heim, freshman undeclared major Alex Jasper, freshman education major Natalie Mitchell, freshman journalism and mass communication major Savanna Schubert and sophomore business major Kayla Turner.

The head coach was Woodie Eubanks, and the assistant coach was Ryan Mayberry.

Eubanks was named the 2011 Southern Conference Coach of the Year.

"I was in shock being picked coach of the year. This is a big honor, especially for the SoCon," Eubanks said. "This achievement is even better since it was voted on by my peers."

The team competed in five tournaments during the fall semester and five more during the spring semester. March was the Bulldogs' most successful month, as they claimed first place at the University of South Alabama Lady Jaguar Intercollegiate and the Samford Intercollegiate and took second at the Western Carolina Spring Tournament during the month.

The Bulldogs were paced by freshmen at both of the tournaments they won. Mitchell placed fourth in the individual standings at the USA Lady Jaguar Intercollegiate, while Jasper tied for third at the Samford Intercollegiate. Jasper tallied a hole-in-one during the tournament's final round.

The Bulldogs wrapped up the season at the Southern Conference Championships in Hilton Head, S.C.

The Bulldogs concluded the three day event with a total score of 967 (323-325-319). Butts led the way with a three round score of 236 (78-80-78) to earn a tie for 17th place in the individual standings.

Butts was followed by Jasper (240), Heim (247), Mitchell (249) and Turner (254).

Eubanks said the Bulldogs are very in sync with each other during the season, which made it easy to motivate them.

"Our teams are pretty much a family," Eubanks. "We are close and interact well with each other."

The 2010-2011 season was a rebuilding one, as the Bulldogs replaced several key seniors from the previous season's lineup with newcomers. However, the success of the young players left Eubanks encouraged about the future of his program.

"We had a lot of challenges this year, outside interference and learning how to play a full tournament, not just rounds," Eubanks said. "Our achievements have been great. We are a very young team on both sides, and we are maturing. The future is bright."

Photos by Melissa McBride

Cheer & Dance

by Allison Hubbard

Despite constant injury struggles, the Bulldog cheerleaders turned out another successful season. Led by sophomore communication studies major Leah Skinner and sophomore journalism and mass communications major Allison Hubbard, the team was comprised of fourteen freshman and sophomore members. The squad was coached by Lauren Hughston, a University graduate and former Bulldog cheerleader.

The team went through a try-out process in May of 2010 and began practice in July. After a week of two-a-day practices, the girls went to UCA college camp in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where they competed against other Division I teams across the country. The team won several awards and blue ribbons.

In August, the team moved in two weeks early to get in more practices before football season. "We practiced really hard this summer," freshman nutrition and dietetics major Sarah Zadick said. "We did a lot of tumbling and stunting so that we would have new skills for the fall. It was tough, and we pushed ourselves really hard, but we had fun too."

The first game was held at Florida State in September. It was a different atmosphere than they were used to, so the girls did some adjusting to ensure that they would be ready for the size of the crowd and the arena. "Florida State was a completely different experience for all of us. For many of us, it was our first time cheering collegiately, but it was a big adjustment for the sophomores too, because of the stadium's size," Zadick said. "We ended up doing well, and despite the loss, we had a good time."

Throughout football season, the team

battled several injuries, illnesses and unexpected obstacles. Because of this, the team held walk-on tryouts in October and gained four more members, which proved to be a big asset to the squad.

In November, football season ended, so the girls took their spirit to the basketball court, where they cheered for all the men's and women's home games. One of the more memorable moments of the year was the women's basketball team's performance at the SoCon tournament, where they beat rival UT-Chattanooga in overtime to advance to the finals. The team then beat no. 1 seed Appalachian State with a last second buzzer beater to win the Southern Conference Championship.

"Cheering at the SoCon tournament was an unforgettable experience," Zadick said. "Every game was so intense, and the Samford fans were unlike any game I've ever seen. It was awesome to see our community rally around our team, and I loved getting to be a direct part of that."

Performances by the Bulldog Dancers also boosted spirit at athletic events this year. The dance team learned a large portion of its choreography at Universal Dance Association camp during the summer. At UDA camp, the squad received "Faculty Choice" and "Participants Choice" for best team, as well as "Overall Superior" on all of its routines. Dance team members were also judged individually for their routines and each dancer was rated "Superior".

During the school year, the squad practiced twice a week, for three hours per practice. Additional practices were added as needed during football season and basketball season. The captains were responsible for all of the choreography.

The Bulldog Dancers greatly increased their presence at basketball games. In the past, they attended as many games as possible, but this year they performed at every home game and at the Southern Conference Tournament in Chattanooga.

"We try to dance to recent and fun music that gets the crowd pumped up at football and basketball games," captain and senior elementary education major Emily Evans said. "The combination of the dance team and the band at both football and basketball games really gets the fans to interact more and get excited about the game. Our goal is to promote school spirit and get people more involved in Samford athletics."

Left: Freshman athletic training major Olivia Greenway perfects an arabesque.

Top Right: Sophomores Allison Hubbard and Leah Skinner have become good friends on the cheering squad.

Bottom Right: Jordy Allen, Kelly Ray, Lindsay Williams and the rest of the Bulldog dancers perform on the field.

SAMPSYS Winners

Female Academic Team of the Year –
Women's Tennis

Male Academic Team of the Year –
Men's Tennis

Athletes for Athletes Team –
Women's Tennis

Athletes for Athletes Individual –
Adrianne Mancino, Soccer

Jim Griffin Award –
Jazmine Powers, Women's Basketball

Support Staff of the Year –
Michelle Durban, Associate AD

Assistant Coach of the Year –
Ryan Mayberry, Golf

Head Coach of the Year –
Rod Tiffin, Cross Country/Track & Field

Female Rookie of the Year –
Katie Murphy, Volleyball

Male Rookie of the Year –
Lex Rutledge, Baseball

Comeback Athlete of the Year –
Robyn Harmon, Softball

Breakthrough Athlete of the Year –
Lauren D'Alessio, Cross Country/Track

Best Clutch Performance –
Wayne Miller, Baseball

Best Finish –
Women's Soccer

Best Upset –
Men's Basketball

Play of the Year –
Paige Anderson, Women's Basketball

Best Championship Performance –
Women's Basketball

Best Blooper –
Tommy Corbin, Baseball

Most Outstanding Team –
Women's Cross Country

Female Athlete of the Year –
Emily London, Women's Basketball

Male Athlete of the Year –
Michael Seaman, Track and Field

Miss Bulldog –
Andrie Meiring, Women's Tennis

Mr. Bulldog –
Patrick Hatcher, Football

Photos by Kasey Strickland

SAMPSYS

by Jay Harper

The Bulldog Athletics community gathered at the Wynfrey Hotel on April 28th in Hoover for the third-annual ¬¬¬SAMSPYS Awards. Organized by Associate Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator Michelle Durban and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, the SAMSPYS Awards celebrated the commitment and achievement of the student-athletes in the community, in the classroom and on the field.

Athletes and coaches abandoned their usual red and blue for formal attire for the event, hosted by emcees Jim Dunaway and Ryan Brown of WJOX's "The Roundtable." Samford has been noted for being one of the first to organize such an event for its student-athletes by fellow collegiate athletic departments around the region. "I think it is important for all of the teams to get together to recognize each other's hard work over the course of the season," Durban said of the event. "Not all sports receive the same publicity, but all student-athletes work very hard, and this event is a great way to celebrate all of their achievements."

The SAMSPYS began with dinner preceding the awards ceremony, which honored athletes and coaches with superlatives ranging from Best Blooper to the Jim Griffin Award, named for the late Bulldog mens basketball player and awarded to the top supporting player. The evening concluded with the naming of Mr. Bulldog and Miss Bulldog – an award given to the male and female athlete who best represents all-around academic and athletic achievement, while exhibiting leadership and service on campus and in the community. The awards went to Patrick Hatcher, a senior exercise science major and defensive tackle on the Bulldog football team, and Andrie Meiring, a senior accounting major on the women's tennis team. "It's really humbling to be chosen for such a great award by my peers," Meiring said. "Samford has a lot of really high caliber athletes, and I'm just grateful to have been a part of this for four years."

After the plaques had all been awarded, and the evening was coming to a close, it was apparent that 2010-2011 was another incredibly successful season for the Bulldogs.

Year in Review

athletics

by Dan Hall

"Championships" and "Change" were common themes for Samford Athletics in 2010-2011. Highlights of the year included three Southern Conference Championships, the hiring of a new athletic director and the opening of a new track and soccer facility.
On October 30th, the women's cross country team took first place at the Southern Conference Championship for the second year in a row. Sophomore Lauren D'Alessio led the Bulldogs with her 2nd place finish.
The women's soccer team was another bright spot during the fall sports season. The team finished with a record of 13-6-3 (8-2-1 SoCon) and advanced to the championship game of the Southern Conference Tournament. However, the Bulldogs dropped a hard fought championship match to No. 14 UNC Greensboro 1-0. Senior defender Colette Nammour was honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, garnering First-Team All-Southeast Region honors. On the prestigious NSCAA First Team, Nammour joined 11 student-athletes, all of whom competed at ACC schools.

After entering the season with high expectations and a national ranking, the football team delivered a disappointing season. The team began the season by traveling to Tallahassee to take on Florida State and FSU head coach and Samford alum Jimbo Fisher. Senior linebacker Bryce Smith intercepted Florida State senior quarterback and 2011 NFL first round draft pick Christian Ponder on the Seminoles' opening position. However, the 'Noles regained focus after the early setback and drilled the Bulldogs 59-6. Samford finished the season with an overall record of 4-7. One highlight of the season was a 20-13 road victory over conference rival Georgia Southern, who advanced to the semi-finals of the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. At the conclusion of the season, Smith was named second team All-American by the Associated Press.

On November 9th, athletic director Bob Roller announced his resignation after 11 seasons leading the athletic department. Under Roller's leadership Samford athletics saw the raising of funds to support the construction and building of several major facilities, including the Pete Hanna Center, Joe Lee Griffin Field, the Cooney Family Field House, Samford Tennis Center, and the new track and field/soccer stadium. "
On March 9th, University of Kentucky director of basketball operations Martin Newton was named Roller's replacement. A Samford alum, Newton was hired as the fourth full-time athletic director in Samford history. A native of Tuscaloosa, Ala., Newton graduated from Samford in 1983 with a degree in business. He was a four-year starter at point guard for the Bulldog basketball team and led the team in assists during the 1979-80 and 1980-81 seasons.

Newton's return to Samford followed a three month national search by a 12-member advisory committee made up of faculty, administration, athletic department staff and student-athlete representatives.
One week after the announcement of Newton's hiring, the women's basketball team claimed the first Southern Conference Tournament Championship in the program's history. Throughout the season the Bulldogs were led by the consistent play of two seniors: Southern Conference Player of Year Emily London and SoCon Tournament Most Outstanding Player Savannah Hill. London finished her career as Samford's all-time leader in points and games started, while Hill finished first in Samford history in field goals made and third in points. The Bulldogs advanced to the first round of the NCAA Tournament, where they lost of Florida State.

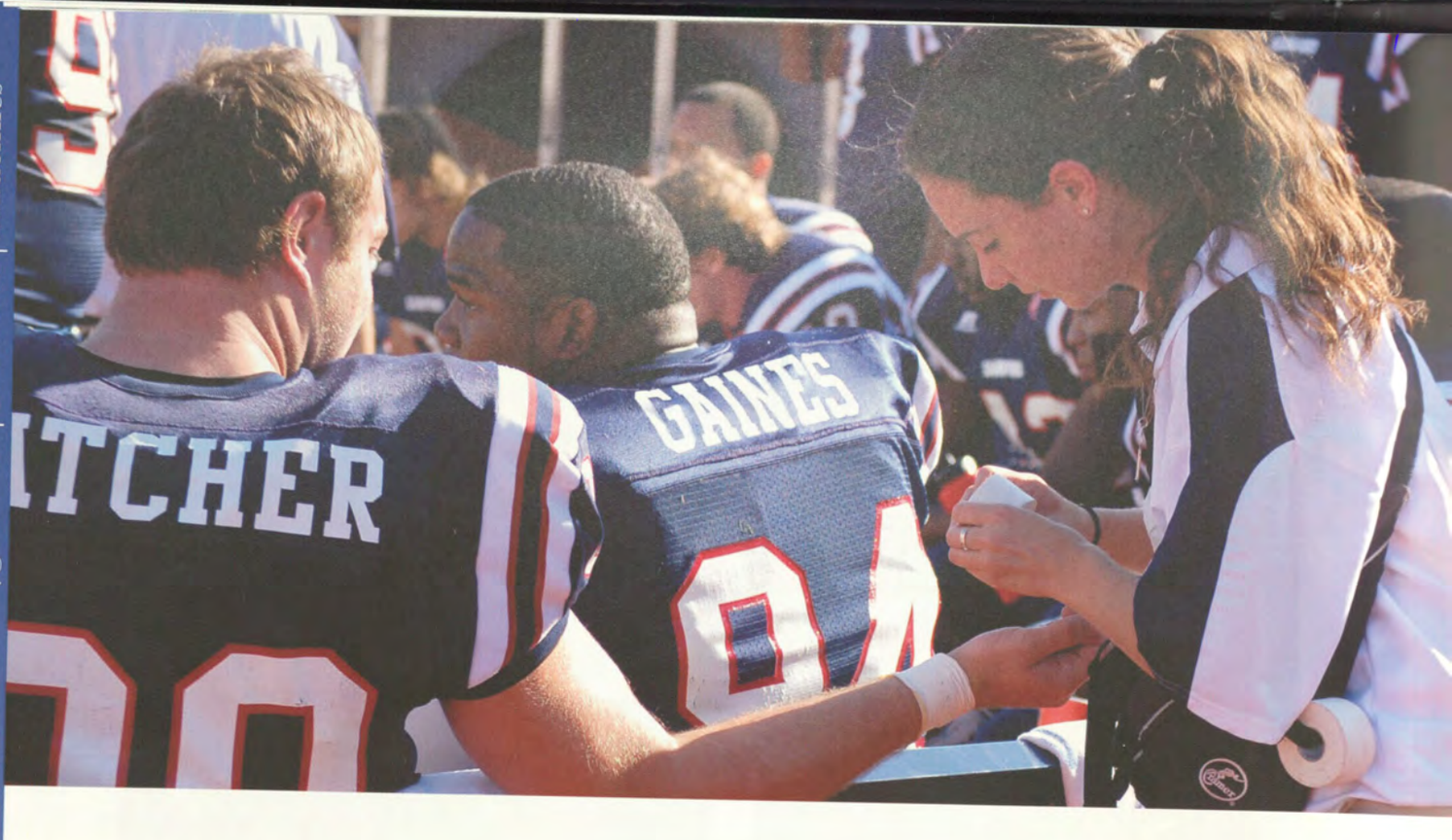
In April, Samford dedicated its new track and soccer complex with a special ribbon

cutting ceremony before hosting the 2011 Southern Conference Track & Field Championships. The complex includes a nine-lane track with a regulation soccer field inside the track, grandstands with seating capacity of 1,200, a 300-square-foot press box and a 5,000-square-foot support building which houses concessions, a ticket booth, restrooms, storage and locker rooms.
Sixteen seniors had the opportunity to compete in the first home track meet of their careers. The men's team placed third and the women placed fourth. At the conclusion of the meet, head coach Rod Tiffin was named SoCon Men's Track and Field Coach of the Year.

Tiffin was not the only Samford head coach to earn hardware this year. Following the men's golf team's fourth place finish at the Southern Conference Championship in April, head coach Woodie Eubanks was named Southern Conference Golf Coach of the Year.

Also in April, the men's tennis team claimed the 2011 Southern Conference Tournament Championship by defeating College of Charleston 4-0. During the tournament, the Bulldogs defeated three teams (Elon, Appalachian State and College of Charleston) that beat them during the regular season. Junior Carson Kadi was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player. The team advanced to the NCAA Tournament and lost to No. 6 Georgia in the first round.
Not only did Samford teams fair well against Southern Conference rivals, the Bulldogs were also very competitive against opponents from the ACC, SEC and C-USA. The baseball team enjoyed the most success against major conference opponents, earning two victories over Auburn, one over Alabama and two over UAB. Samford also knocked off UAB in men's and women's tennis. In women's basketball, Samford defeated Clemson and South Florida, while the men's basketball team defeated Auburn for the first time since 1940.

Photos by Kasey Strickland and Megan Stenner



The Team

behind the team

by Lauren Sharpe

While student athletes were busy making plays and scoring points, another team stood close by ready to execute all it had learned throughout the week's practices. This team behind the team consisted of student athletic trainers: students who chose to endure the same long hours as their athlete peers in the training room, in class and at practice for a supporting role rather than a leading one. Their responsibilities were not to complete a touchdown pass or run a 10K, but to make sure the athletes they aided were able to.

"Most people see student athletic trainers as glorified water girls and guys, but there is so much more that people never get to see," senior athletic training major Rachel Bryan said. "We spend hours in the training room teaching athletes rehabilitative exercises, evaluating injuries, cleaning wounds and taping ankles."

With the risk of injury involved in sports, this prevention and rehabilitation role in athletic trainers is essential," head trainer Michelle Johnson said. "Without athletic trainers, athletes would not receive the immediate and extended care necessary to quickly, safely and effectively return to their sport."

Student athletic trainers started learning the necessary care from the time they began classes. From the first semester of their freshman year until graduation, the students are assigned to assist a certified athletic trainer in a different sport each semester. These eight semesters of approximately 250 clinical hours, each coupled with multiple science-based classes, make for a rigorous and time-consuming schedule, but one that well equips the students for their future careers.

"Some people might complain about the long hours, but they come with the territory," Bryan said.

Senior athletic training major Brett Anderson said the practical experience trainers gain supplements their educational experience and prepares them for their future careers.

"The hands-on experience that athletic training students gain throughout their time at Samford is an extremely important part of their education. It is a great opportunity to put into practice what is learned in the classroom," Anderson said. "Also, it provides students with the experience to enter the field of athletic training confident in their skills and abilities."

Johnson agreed that the hands-on experience was crucial. "Without it, they would be ill-equipped to handle their job after receiving their certification," she said. "If they have never felt a torn ACL or seen someone with postural imbalances, they will have a very hard time recognizing that on their own."

"The hands-on experience also gives them more confidence in handling situations on their own," Johnson added. "Without confidence they will struggle to earn the trust of any patient."

Bryan said she is confident about her next step because of the training she has gained at Samford.

"My experience has been great and has really prepared me for graduate school and becoming an athletic trainer in the future," she said. "The professors and athletic trainers on staff are committed to teaching their students and giving us the best experience they can. They do a good job of overseeing our work but letting us be a little more independent as we get further along in the program."

Top Left: Jessica Wolford acts fast and aids an injury.

Bottom Left: Jenna McCulley supplies Samford's football team with water during a game.

Above: Athletic trainers walk alongside the team they support. *Photos by Lauren Brown*

Top: Junior Justin Thigpen played his second year on Ferrousity.

Bottom Left: Sophomore Tim Foote runs down the field and intercepts the frisbee.

Bottom Right: The men's Ferrousity team had 11 wins and 11 losses for its third season.

Photos by Tim Foote

Club Sports

by Stephanie Tuttle

Some of the University's club sport teams were relatively new, but that did not mean that they were unrecognized on the campus. The club teams included women and men's Lacrosse, men's Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee and a newest addition, Crew. Each of these teams was started, run and coached solely by committed students.

These teams owed their existence to the students who pushed through and made the dreams of starting a club team come true. The Club program was perfect for any students looking to either continue to play a sport played in high school, or to try something completely new and different that is a bit more competitive than intramurals, yet less intense than participating in a varsity sport.

Teams played rival colleges across the South, with some of the club teams being a part of differing divisions and conferences. Teammates were excited and eager to tell of how much they had each enjoyed their experiences thus far.

Senior accounting major Eddie Terrell headed up the men's soccer club this past season. The team has been around for at least 5 or 6 years, but seemed to finally be headed in the right direction with hopes of becoming part of a regional league. "We basically make our own schedule and play whoever we can, whenever we can get field space and a scheduled date," Terrell said. Their season was in the fall, and their team size was somewhere between ten to twenty five people, like in the past. Most of the guys on the team played some in high school, or they just love the sport.

"We've got a great group of guys with a lot of talent, and I've got high hopes for the team in the future," Terrell said. "If the guys can keep up the hard work, they will be on their way to a very successful program."

Lacrosse continued its eruption in the south by adding both a men and women's lacrosse club team here. Parker Branch and Jordyn Elrod founded the teams in the fall of 2008.

Ultimate frisbee is another club sport that found life on the University's campus. Senior John David Corwin was the captain of the team this season and expected great results as the team faced teams throughout the Southeast.

"Grant Millsaps started the team my freshman year, back in 2007, and we've been playing in tournaments and the USA Ultimate College Championships every spring since," Corwin said. "This spring is particularly exciting because USA Ultimate just created a Division III, which the team will play in for the first time this year, whereas for the past three years we have have been playing in Division I."

Intramurals

by Catherine Farist

Intramurals was once again a favorite of many University traditions. Intramurals ranged from flag football to a Texas Hold'em tournament and introduced a new addition: Quidditch.

Avid freshman Harry Potter fan and nursing major Katy Flinn started Quidditch, bringing this unique intramural into the University.

"I'm a big Harry Potter Fan, I love everything about it, and ever since I heard that 'Muggles' could play Quidditch, it planted this idea in my head," Flinn said. "It was kind of a bizarre idea that I started thinking about over the summer and I realized that I didn't have to wait for the opportunity to be a part of it: I could start it."

After beginning her research, Flinn complied a list of equipment, costs and regulations to present to Campus Recreation. There are many different organizations for Quidditch, but Flinn decided to follow the International Quidditch Association's rules and regulations.

"Quidditch has many different rules from different organization to another. For example, the IQA calls for the snitch to be a person dressed up in yellow that runs and hides at the beginning of the game while the other players cover their eyes, while another organization has a gold marble, has it thrown

into a field, and have the bludgers scour the ground for it," said Flinn.

The first movement of Quidditch on campus came from Flinn's "Quidditch on the Quad," which provided a lot of support for it popularity. Many viewers, as well as players showed up and it coincided with the premiere of the newest Harry Potter movie.

"It ended up being kind of difficult to enforce the rules. There are so many little rules and regulations, it is hard to keep track," Flinn said. "The hardest part, though, was getting people to keep the broom between their legs."

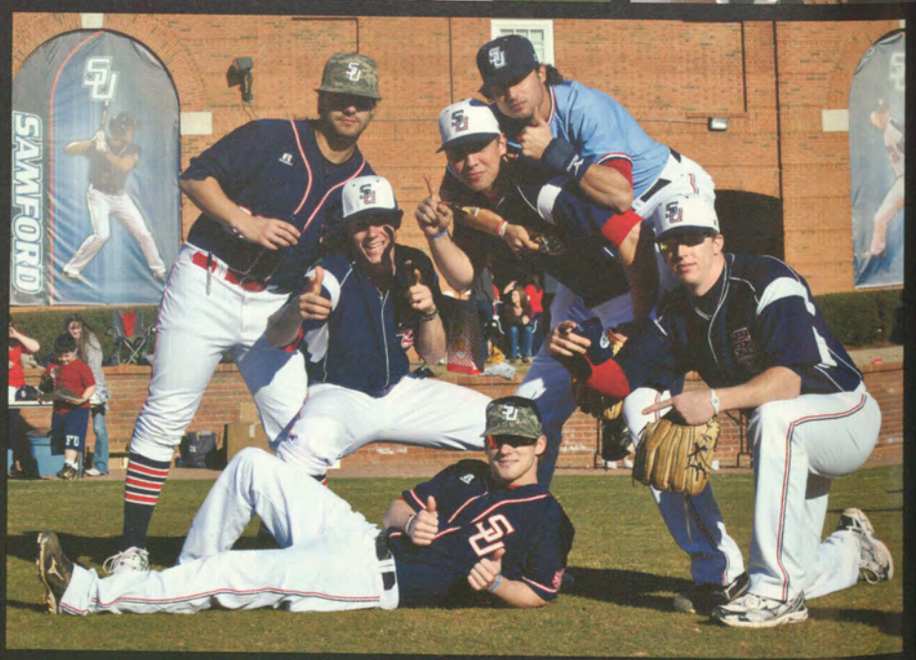
Flinn is currently on her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha's intramural soccer team, and this is the first intramural she has participated in at the University so far.

"I really enjoy getting into a recreational sport again, and it's just a really fun environment to participate in with my sisters," Flinn said. "But, I am also super pumped for Quidditch to start up. I was so happy when I saw that it had gone through and was starting up mid-March."

The various leagues provided students with a plethora of recreational sports set up in a design specifically to cater to the University and keep the students involved over the course of their time here.

"My freshman year I was on a championship winning flag football team and that ended up being an awesome experience," geography major William Fine said. "I am currently on an ultimate Frisbee team, which is one of those sports you don't have to particularly good at to enjoy and you can just have fun with friends you might not normally see around campus and create a sense of unity."

Top Left: Students put on their game faces before playing Quidditch on the Quad. *Bottom Right:* Quidditch on the Quad players are excited about its addition as an intramural sport. *Photos by Katy Flinn*

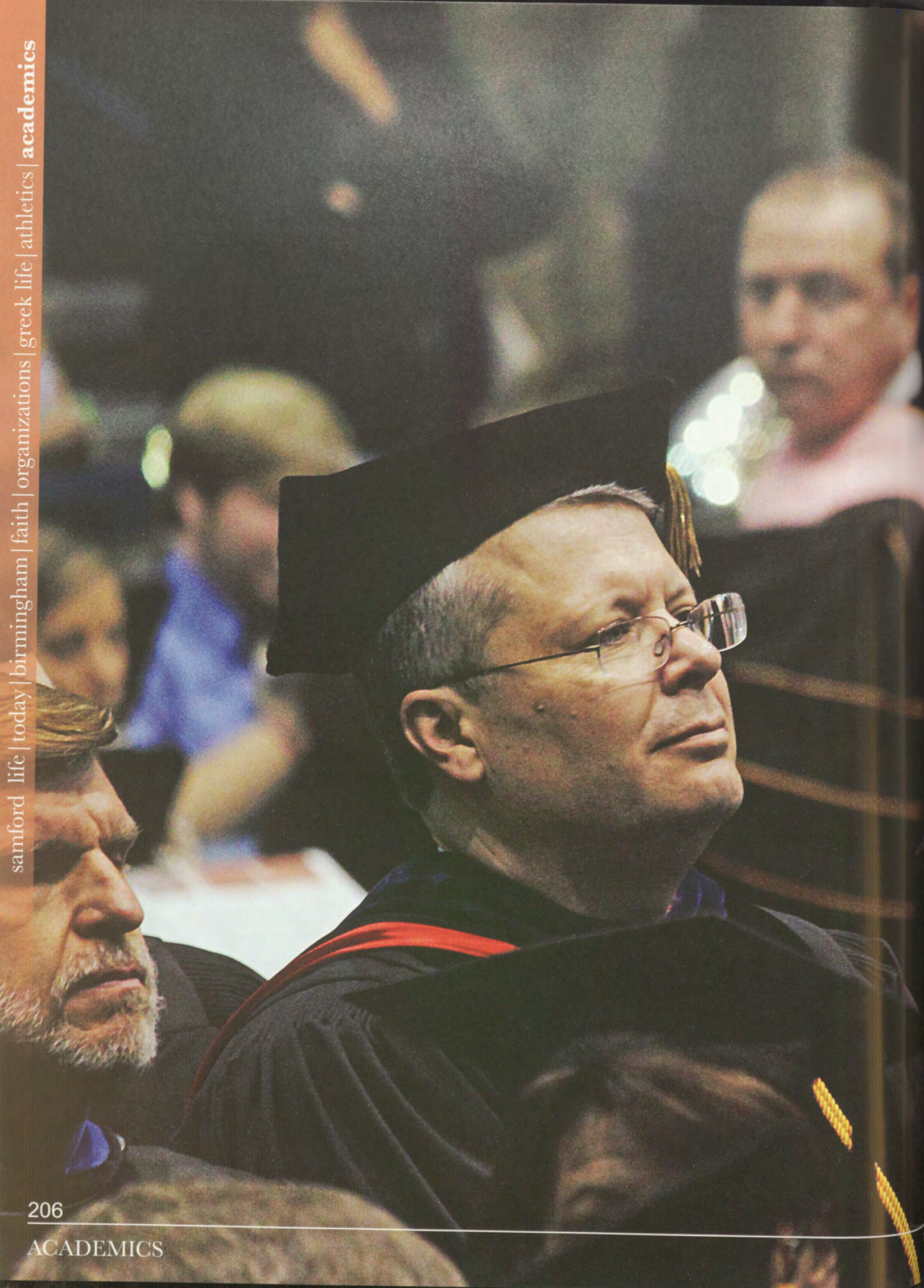


Top Left: Samford's cheerleaders pose with Spike before a game.
Photo by Kasey Strickland

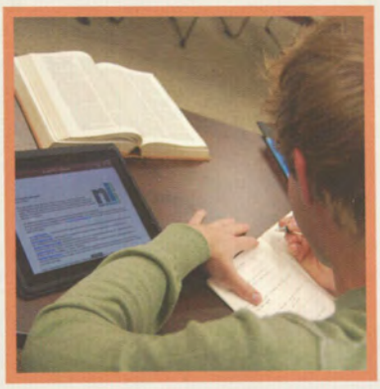
Bottom Left: Junior forward John Peterson goes up for a shot.
Photo by Don Orr

Top: A student dressed as Moses parts the Red Sea and leads the cheers for our Bulldogs. *Photo by Kasey Strickland*

Bottom Right: Junior Robyn Harmon and Sophomore Alex Adams share a laugh on the softball field. *Photo by Kasey Strickland*



Academics



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Entre Nous | Impact

What class has impacted your education the most?

"I would say that either CA 102 with Dr. Brammer or Human Physiology with Dr. Dobbins has really impacted my education. While those two classes are on completely opposite ends of the spectrum, I was challenged so much in each of them both personally and educationally. Both professors are so knowledgable and passionate about what they teach and they really engage their students accepting nothing short of each individual's best work."
Olivia Bosshardt, senior nursing major

"Freshman year in Dr. Chew's General Psychology class has had the greatest impact on my education. It was the first class I have ever had to read an entire text book from cover to cover. It was evident from class that Dr. Chew is passionate about his field, and his passion cultivated one of the best environments for me to learn. The course stretched my abilities and better prepared me for other classes. It wasn't even the raw information regarding psychology that benefited me, but rather it was acquiring skills of studying to the point of mastering subject material."
Grant Willis, junior biology major

"Biblical Perspectives probably impacted my education the most pretty much because it impacted me the most. You come into college with a set of beliefs, a lot of which you've adopted because its how you've been raised, but the class makes you look at these ideas and look at yourself and essentially make them your own. You explore your faith and come out a lot more refined in your beliefs, I think, and by extension, more aware of who you are."
Deborah Rodriguez, junior english major

"The class that has impacted my education the most has been my freshman CP classes taught by Dr. Rod Davis. He is a brilliant man, and he showed me what it meant to truly study, work hard, and never stop learning no matter how old I become. I owe my academic success to him here at Samford, and words, grades, and awards that I have recieved cannot scratch the surface of what he meant to my education."
Blaise Carie, senior biology major

"Mass Media and Society with Dr. Jones made me see journalism in an entirely different light and discover how the industry really works. He made sure we did not leave his class without knowing the real effect that advertising has on our society today. The class was eye-opening for me and made me see as early as my freshman year where my interests lie."
Carson Pyles, sophomore jmc major

"Intermediate Microeconomics my junior year challenged me to examine the world and today's most politicizing issues from a less superficial and more objective perspective. Microecon helped me recognize that people's decisions are many times skewed by ideology biases. This class not only taught me the math behind economics but taught me to evaluate problems at a deeper level as questions of trade-offs and opportunities to help the most people possible."
Carter Jones, senior business major

"Of all my classes at Samford, Rhetorical Criticism has definitely impacted me the most. It completely changed the way I look at the world and taught me to be critical, observant, and to seek all sides of an issue or story and dig out the relevant and essential information. Also, Dr. Janas' tips for college students are invaluable - I share them with every high school senior who asks me about college!"
Anna Bryant, senior communications major

"The class that has impacted me the most during my stay at Samford would have to be the Western Intellectual Tradition class. It not only stretched me outside my comfort zone of math and science, it changed my perspective on the world in general."
Chris Walling, junior math and computer science major

"The class that impacted my education the most thus far would be Don Rankin's Watercolor class. This class allowed for my paintings to flow from me involuntarily due to the free atmosphere and time of day. In these sunny, afternoon hours of spring I knew I was an artist."
Rachel Davis, junior art major

Photo by DuBose Ratchford

Photo by Brittney Harrison

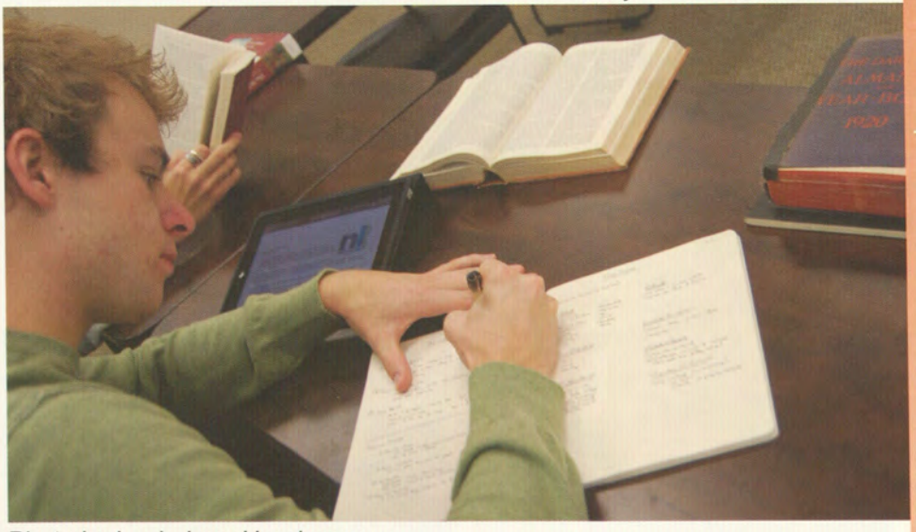


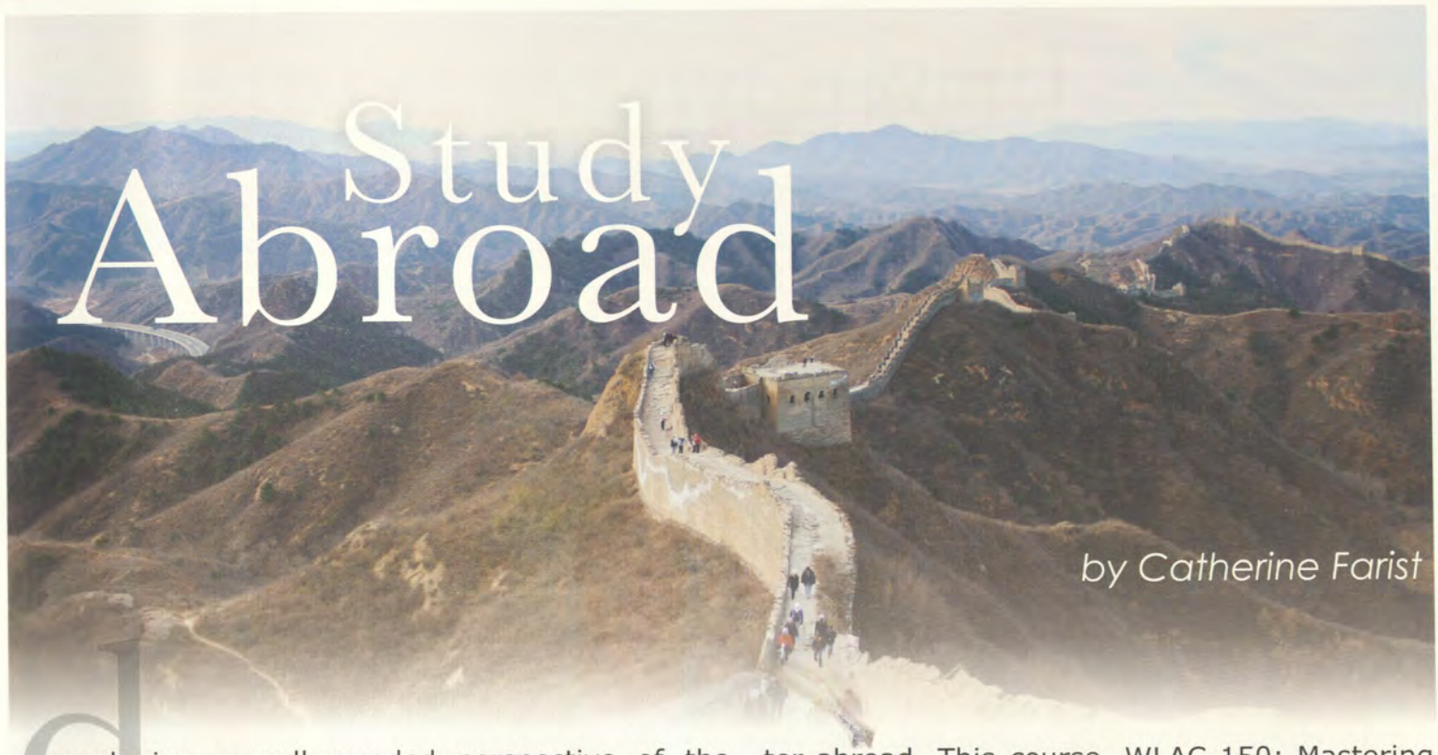
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Photo by Brittney Harrison

Top Left: Students found a common passion in Ghana.
Photo by Birrtney Harrison

Middle Right: A wall of lobster locks in London calls for a photo op.
Photo by Dubose Ratchford

Study Abroad



by Catherine Farist

Developing a well-rounded perspective of the world and broadening horizons was again one of many goals the University had for its students. The study abroad program brought this goal to the forefront.

The German program was the only area of study to hold a semester long exchange program, located in Weingarten, Germany.

"The beauty of an exchange program, is that you don't have to a transfer of credits, which makes the whole process smoother for the student and allows them to continue to have access to the Samford financial aide," Director of the World Languages, Marigene Chamberlain, said. "We have had many students do semester long study abroad programs in places like France and Hong Kong. However, it just is a more complicated process."

In the beginning phases of a larger exchange program formation, the department heard confirmation of two new countries, Argentina and Quebec, being added to the semester long exchange program. The specific universities that the University will be partnering will be pinpointed during the upcoming school year.

"You should study abroad wherever you want to enhance your major, or what you want to do with your life," Shipley, director of study abroad, said. "This year we have and will have had 325 students abroad, a great increase from just last year; where we had less than 300 over past three years."

In addition, the program added a new class to help with transition of spending a long semester abroad. This course, WLAC 150: Mastering the International Experience; Living and Studying Abroad, will serve as a pre-departure course for those studying overseas for three or more weeks, and was a prerequisite for those in the German study abroad programs.

The class was designed for those who will be doing a home stay as an immersion program and focused on intercultural strategy and cultural learning. It is a two-credit course and will first be offered fall of 2011. Students will work with general knowledge on their selected country, adjustment, competency and presentations. With this, all of these programs require a home stay, except an exchange program, where students are set up in dorms or apartments by the partner university. This course will help the students pre-integrate into the culture of their chosen country.

"Since I will be spending 12 weeks this summer in Baumberg, Germany, we have been required to take this class, but under a German course title, and I believe it will provide future students with invaluable knowledge of the how to's when in another country and give them a competent feel of what they are heading into when studying abroad," freshman business major Lin Liu said. "While the German program is a small one, it gives it students many opportunities and I am very excited to see how this course will help my home stay."

Other languages in the program such as Spain and France did summer long study abroad trips, and Costa Rico was offered during Jan Term.

University FELLOWS

by Catherine Farist

Each class of the three-year old Fellows program has provided the University with different personalities and perspectives that continue to change the program's status quo within the university.

"I think the Fellows program gives you a foundation of how to ask questions about life," junior Brock Scholars and nonprofit management major Caroline Noland said. "You are asked hard questions, and it's ok if you don't know the answers."

Noland is part of the first class of the University Fellows Program, which replaced the Honors program three years ago. She is also among the four Brock Scholars that are picked from each class of selected Fellows. This business honors program allows the student to design his or her own major and curriculum and provides for a sponsored internship in the spring of sophomore year in the local Birmingham area. In addition, the student is given a Brock Fellowship, which includes a summer set-aside before the student's junior year for international nonprofit work, all expenses covered.

Enacted this year, the University Fellows Leadership Council was set up with elected upper and lowerclassmen. Much like Samford's Board of Standards, this council is designed to serve the Fellows program by fostering a healthy academic and personal community, providing support for program initiatives, monitoring the program's quality, and preserving the traditions of University Fellows.

"The Leadership Council lets Fellows take ownership of the community –we can be directly involved in shaping its progress and ensuring it contributes to and learns from the university community as a whole," junior Brock Scholar and marketing major Kley Sippel said.

"As the first Musical Theater major in the Fellows program, I had to have a whole new customized curriculum set up, as it was the first time the two had ever been combined," freshman musical theater major Phillip Arnold said. "It ended up being a lot of work both on my advisors and my behalf, but it really showed how much this program does for its members and how strongly they will advocate and work for us, which was a huge encouragement in going through the process of setting up an entirely new schedule."

The foundation of this strong liberal arts curriculum provides the 40 students picked each year with a classically based set of core classes. The first four semesters of Fellows classes are loosely based off the Cultural Perspective class required in the University's core curriculum. This class, officially named Western Intellectual Tradition, most frequently referred to as WHIT, focuses on the books that define western thought. Other core classes include a variation of Biblical Perspectives, a Writing & Rhetoric class comparable to Communication Arts, Calling and Leadership, and Scientific Inquiry, which provide an intro to the philosophy of science.

"As an incoming freshman to the fellows program, I enjoyed the smaller class sizes, given how challenging the curriculum presents itself as," junior international relations and pre-med major Hannah Ward said. "The sense of community provides a huge support in that you are surrounded by people who understand your course work and work load."

The all paid trip to Rome, during Jan Term of sophomore year, highlights the program's emphasis on hard work and ethics. "Fellows program is tough and stretches you, but overall I feel challenged in ways that I know will lay a foundation for higher education," sophomore international relations major Austin Davis said. "The trip to Rome, Italy

PROGRAM

Works for the University Community

makes it worth all the long hours put into Fellows course work. I had an amazing time and was able to share it with the wonderful community created by the Fellows program."

Following their fourth semester, Fellows have officially completed the curriculum required for the program but still retain all of the resources and benefits provided. These perks include exclusive access to lectures and speakers and scholarships specifically for study abroad accessible to any Fellow for any trip.

"As a junior, I believe the biggest benefit that the Fellows program has provided me with is the dedicated personalized attention from professors," Sippel said. "They make it very easy to get connected to anyone you may need or want with a direct foot in the door, so to speak."

The Fellows program also seeks to provide a launching pad for entering freshman by presenting them with examples to follow and limitless possibilities. With the ability to look forward and see the diversity of what their college experience will provide, freshmen are given a strong foundation of support and connections right from day one.

Photos by Dubose Ratchford

ARTS

"For God, For Learning, Since 1970"

by Bailey Boyer

Although University traditions were maintained by ensembles with the support of the School of the Arts, the arts' roles in University traditions predated the school's establishment. The University existed almost 130 years without a school of arts until 1970, when the Department of Music was elevated to school status and given the name "School of Music." The Theatre Department was added to the school in 2001, and the name changed to "School of Performing Arts." Six years later, the Department of Art was added, and at the end of the 2007-08 academic year, the new name "Samford School of the Arts" was officially announced.

The school trained its students to be composers, performers, directors and educators, and it sent them out to carry on the level of excellence required for success. In addition to its high quality training for young musicians, it helped support current musicians by allowing them to perform in Jane Hollock Brock Recital Hall. As a part of the Davis Architect Series, the School of the Arts hosted the famous Imani Winds, Tokyo String Quartet, Trio Voronezh and Anne Marie McDermott. The students benefited from meeting these artists, attending master classes and receiving private lessons.

One exciting guest of the spring was the globally-acclaimed Julliard professor Samuel Adler. Adler taught music theory classes and held a composition master class for students. In preparation for a concert featuring music composed by Adler himself, he rehearsed the A Cappella Choir and the Wind Ensemble and taught the young performers that "religious music is not supposed to be nice."

The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band toured through south Alabama and the Orlando, Florida area over spring break of 2011. Director of Bands, Dr. Jim Smisek, believed that touring is essential to keeping the University's tradition of excellence alive and hoped that touring is more than just a recruiting tool for the School of the Arts. "I hope that touring will spread the word about Samford University in general and specifically about our band program," he said. "I want everyone to know how amazing Samford University is and how they should consider coming to this school to learn."

A Cappella Choir's new director as of fall 2010, Dr. Phillip Copeland, took the choir to sing at churches throughout the state. "The Samford A Cappella Choir has a long history of touring to churches around the state and region," he said. "We represent Samford to the Baptist community and bring a fresh musical sense and worship ethic to their services." A Cappella Choir also toured with University Chorale to New York and sang in Carnegie Hall in late May.

Meanwhile, back in Homewood, the Theater and Dance department collaborated to cre-

ate their own art to share with the world. The Theater Department traveled abroad to Scotland for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and performed an original piece by professor of theater, Dr. Don Sandley, called Alicia en La Loteria. The dance students performed "Wounded Wings," a one-act ballet about tragic loss and the grief, recovery and reconciliation of the survivors. The show collaborated between several students and university dance instructor Lisa Gibbs. "I'm most proud of the department's commitment to bringing real issues to the stage, giving our students meaning roles, and exploring humanity through our chosen art forms," Gibbs said.

At the end of the academic year, a minor in Worship Leadership was added. Interestingly, the minor in Worship Leadership closely relates to one of the primary purposes of Howard College which (according to Article III, Section I of Howard's original Charter of Trustees) was to "include in its programs of general education herein authorized the training of ministers to preach the gospel, of musicians to conduct and develop sacred music and of laymen to do education and other religious work." Eric Mathis, Instructor of Church Music and Worship Leadership, believed that the minor was an addition that would benefit the University and the body of Christ. "The minor in worship leadership gives Samford an opportunity to serve the church," he said. "It provides worship leaders with an opportunity to participate in lively discussions about all aspects of Christian worship."

The School of the Arts yielded progress in ways that furthered the mission of the university and created opportunities for students to pursue their individual passion for the arts. By allowing students the opportunity to meet professionals and pursue their goals alongside one another, the School of the Arts continued years of musical tradition and professional training.

Top Left: Senior Michael Williams sits down for an interview with some of his infamous artwork.

Top Right: Johnny Contini and his partner express the art of dance.
Photos by Taylor Horneman

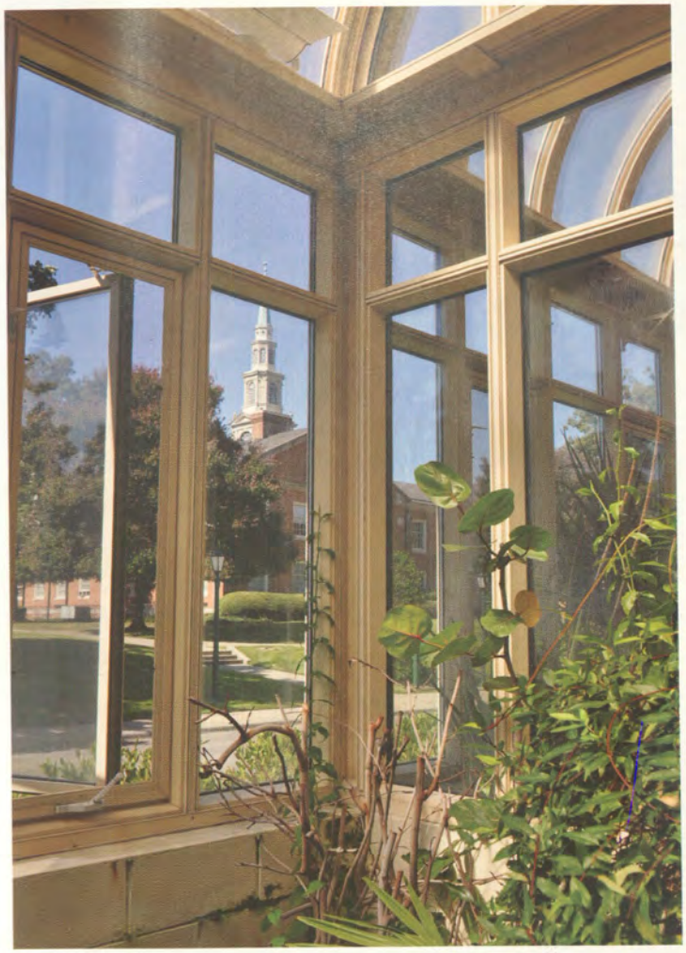
Arts and Sciences

by Katie Ormsbee

The University was once known as Howard College, which is a name still honored by the University's Howard College of Arts and Sciences. The city of Marion was the founding site for Howard College in 1841 and host town for the traditional Old Howard 100 Bike Ride. Last held in April 2011, the proceeds of the ride went to Sowing Seeds of Hope, a ministry dedicated to improving the quality of life in Perry County. "To me, the bike ride is part of fulfilling our mission to serve others," assistant dean of the University Dana Basinger said. Nicole Williams, a senior sociology major and member of University Ministry's Perry County Initiative. She, along with several other student volunteers, was responsible for registration and handing out sandwiches and water to participating bikers. "It's a fundraiser that reaches Samford students, faculty, and all its participants," Williams said. "It further illustrates how the college is getting involved in Marion. It's a neat way to get Samford's name out there and to support an impoverished community that Samford once called home."

In addition to an ongoing interest in the local communities outside of Samford and Birmingham, the College of Arts and Sciences enriched the scholastic experiences of its students and faculty on campus. In October, the college hosted its annual J. Roderick Davis Lecture. "Each year, the lecture tackles an important issue that is shaping our nation's future," dean of the college Dr. David Chapman said. "This year's lecturer, Kevin Davies, an internationally known authority on the human genome, challenged us to consider the ways that genetic research is transforming health, education, and business. It may even be altering our sense of what it means to be human. How will genetic information help us diagnose and treat disease? How should we respond to the knowledge that we may be at a higher risk for cancer or stroke? Is it possible to alter the genetic destiny of ourselves and our children? Are such interventions ethical? Students were encouraged to imagine how such changes would affect their own futures and the world they live in."

Within the college, faculty members continued to contribute to the lives of their students and to the University as a whole. Dr. Andy Lampkins, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, received a Cottrell College Science Award, a two-year $42,220 research grant from the Research Corporation for Science Advancement to further his work in the fields of synthetic organic chemistry and drug discovery. Dr. Nancy Whitt of the English department re-



ceived Samford's Jennings B. Marshall Service Award, which acknowledged significant and sustained service contributions of faculty to the university. Each year, the college selects one faculty member to receive its Outstanding Teacher award based upon faculty and student senior nominations. The 2011 award went to Dr. William Wallace of the Samford History department. "He was great at facilitating class discussion," senior English major and one of Dr. Wallace's many former students Destiny Soria said. "We had very spirited debates, and Dr. Wallace was always good at encouraging us to argue both sides, not just the one with which we were most comfortable."

Opportunities for academic inquiry within the college were by no means limited to the traditional school year. During the summer of 2010, 21 undergraduates took part in Samford's Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP). Topics of research varied from historical to sociological to biological and beyond. Callie Gibson, a junior history and psychology double major, worked with psychology professor Dr. Stephen Chew under the topic title, "The Need for Acceptance and the Cost of Social Rejection." Gibson's research was directed toward answering one of the Big Questions posed by the Teagle Foundation on whether or not social nature is essential to being human. Her research focused on what happens when an individual is rejected from a group. "I learned the importance of taking initiative and doing things on my own," Gibson said. "However, I also learned how important asking for help can be. I am thankful for the opportunity I had to do one-on-one research and collaboration with a professor—something I would never be able to do at a bigger school." Other students who took part in the past year's SURP were Laura Bedsole, Scott Buess, Aaron Carr, Scott Cope, Zach Evans, Ryan Fee, Jesse Kawell, Cedrick Kousok, Larry McCutcheon, Casey Moore, Josh Moore, Tessa Pitts, Drew Pomeroy, Will Ricks, Walter Turner, Jessica Van Ausdall, Richard Wakefield, Chris Walling, Tara White, and Jon Zeiger.

Whether in the classroom, a vast lecture hall, or on a bike trail in Marion, the College of Arts and Sciences witnessed great achievements and contributions that would belong, like its namesake, to a larger University tradition.

Photos by Leah Jane Henderson

Business exploits and entrepreneurs

by Laura Hash

Almost every single student passed by Brock School of Business at least once a day during the academic week. Yet many of these students were somewhat unaware of many of the notable achievements that took place inside this influential school on campus. But stop most any Business major in between classes or resting in the plaza, and they would assuredly say that this academic year was full of changes, recognitions and large steps forward for both the faculty and staff of this revered school.

One of the biggest recent topics of conversation concerning the Business School was the appointment of a new Dean in March 2011. Dr. Howard Finch effectively stepped into this role July 1. He replaced Beck A. Taylor, who resigned in May 2010 and moved on to become President of Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. Finch earned a bachelor of business administration degree from North Georgia College and State University, Dahlonega, and a master of business administration from Mercer University, and a master of arts and doctor philosophy degrees in finance from University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. His experience as a widely published consultant and frequently hosted speaker on the regional and national levels made him an excellent candidate for the position.

But although his resume revealed that Finch was more than competent for the role of Dean, he made a clear and concerted effort to show an avid interest in the goals and opinions of students.

"He asked us what we liked about the school and what we wanted to see improved. Instead of trying to impress us with his knowledge of Samford, he listened to everyone's input and offered his insight as well," freshman Business major and member of the Dean's student advisory board Daniel Denning said. "The fact that he is already listening to students and not assuming that he knows everything about being the Dean of a business school speaks volumes to me."

As a testament to excellent teaching, Dr. Steven T. Jones was named the George Macon Memorial Teaching Award winner. This award gave recognition to Jones' performance as a teacher, counselor, and friend to students. He was actively involved in the university and community. In addition to teaching, he both advised students and mentored new faculty members. President elect of the international Academy of Economics and Finance, he was very influential in numerous student and staff lives.

However, the limelight was not just for the faculty this year. The Business School enjoyed its largest undergraduate enrollment in recent years.

"The school has so much to offer- great professors and challenging coursework, and its growth is evidence of the strides that Brock has made in recent years," senior business major Carter Jones said.

Also as a testimony to student accomplishment, several students made notable achievements through the Regions Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition.
In this competition, undergraduates, graduates and recent alumni were all encouraged to submit plans for the competition. The winning plans received seed capital from Regions Bank in order to help fund their proposed business ventures. The competition was initially created in order to encourage students to start their own businesses.

A competitive and rich learning environment, the Challenge added the benefit of allowing students to practice the skills they learned in

the classroom and to begin applying them to a functioning business plan.

"The Samford/Regions New Venture Challenge was an incredible experience for me. As an entrepreneur, you constantly have ideas swimming in your head but rarely do you take the time to thoughtfully write everything down into one cohesive business plan," senior business major Heather Williams said. "The challenge forced me to do just that – thoroughly express my ideas, and then back is up with hard numbers and rational projections."

Williams was 2011's Open Division winner. She landed $7500 seed money in order to fund the startup of her company, Tallulah, Handmade Clothing for the Conscientious Consumer. Campus Flicks, an on-campus DVD rental kiosk won the BUSA 100 – World of Business Division. The freshman business majors who received $2500 seed money and generated this company idea were Laura Beth Allen, Tyler Davis, Heather Jones, Ben McGlamery and Greg Schultz.

Other notable achievements both in and around the Business School included the addition of MBA concentrations Entrepreneurship and International Business to the curriculum and the launch of Samford Business Network in Washington, DC. The mentoring program, which pulls professionals in the business community and matches students to a professional mentor, was the largest to date. The Brock School of Business, already on the rise, seemed to have no limits on its future.

Photos by Taylor Horneman

The School of Education Promotes Learning

by Lauren Sharpe

The Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies's mission was to nurture, develop and challenge students, faculty, and staff academically, professionally, personally, and spiritually by providing the highest quality Christian learning environment to promote leaders who will positively influence and shape society. As the school year came to a close, the pursuit of this mission was evident through the successes of the school's faculty and students. While success was not measured solely through plaques and public recognition, a few highlights of the school's year include those that were:

OBBSEPS began a fifth-year nontraditional secondary graduate program, which was designed for those with a B.S. or B.A. who wanted to earn a teaching certificate for a secondary subject.

Betsy Rogers began as chair of the education department in July 2010. Rogers, a Samford graduate, worked in the public school system for almost 30 years and was named the National Teacher of the Year in 2003.

Jodi Newton, a former Homewood City Schools superintendent, was named the associate dean of the school of education and professional studies. Faculty member Angela Ansah was named assistant dean of Academic Support Services.

Greg Mortenson, author of Three Cups of Tea, spoke as the inaugural lecturer of the Tom and Marla Corts Distinguished Author Series. In front of a crowd of more than 2000, Mortenson lectured on the importance of schools across the world. "There is no reason why any child should be a slave or be denied the right to go to school," he said.

The Christian Women's Leadership Center sponsored the Marie NeSmith Fowler lecture series in February. Speaker Susan M. Shaw spoke on the importance of pursuing passions. "Following our passion is not only about ourselves," she said. "When we do what we love, when we follow our hearts, our acts have far-reaching implications beyond anything we can imagine."

The school held its first "Artsy, Not So Artsy" sale at Homecoming to coincide with its annual barbecue.

The Student Dietetic Association was awarded the Outstanding Student Association for the fourth consecutive year at the Alabama Dietetic Association meeting in March. Senior nutrition major Victoria Irons also claimed the Outstanding Senior Dietetics Student title. "The SDA is an incredible organization. However, the SDA would not be what it is today without our remarkable professors. Two of our professors have been nationally recognized for their hard work and dedication to the field of nutrition. It is an honor to be their students," Irons said.

Dietetics and nutrition professor Patricia Hart Terry was named a 2011 Outstanding Dietetics Educator by the American Dietetic Association.

Senior interior design major Jonathan Haas won the state's top award for his senior thesis, which proposed a renovation and repurpose of downtown's Birmingham Branch of the Federal Bank of Atlanta to promote community interaction.

Senior exercise science and sports medicine students Kara Hardin and Derrick Thomas won first place for their research on age-related clustering of Type I muscle fibers in humans at the Southeast American College of Sports

Medicine annual meeting in February. "This award not only represents our work but also the work of our department," Hardin said.

OBBSEPS included the children's learning center, Christian women's leadership center, exercise science and sports medicine, family studies, interior design, teacher education, Samford after sundown and a number of graduate and adult programs.

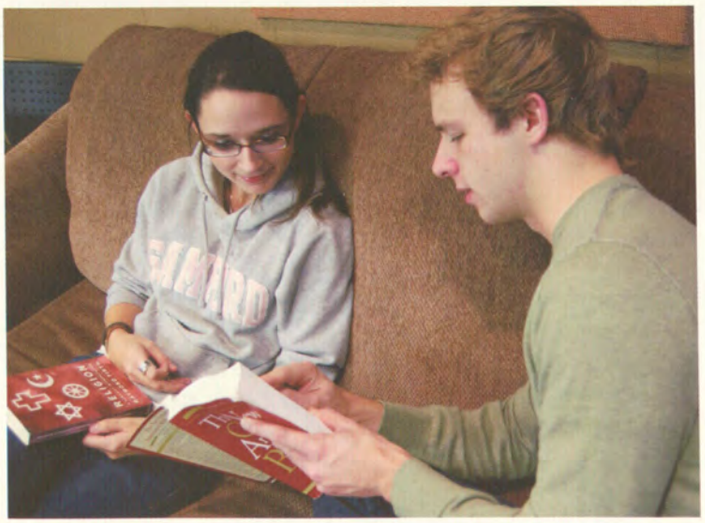


Photo by Dubose Ratchford

Top: Chef Chris Vizzina takes hold of fresh produce at the Farmer's Market in Ben Brown Plaza.
Photo by Leah Jane Henderson

Left: The Interior Design department has a lot of impressive work to display.
Photo by Brittney Harrison

the school of Nursing *recognizes its achievements*

by Natalie Nichols

The Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing looked forward to celebrating its ninetieth year anniversary in 2012 and would make its founder, Ida V. Moffett ecstatic and proud of the new accomplishments that have been made. The school had experienced a lot of growth and featured classrooms, offices and a brand new state-of-the-art simulation lab in Bashinsky Hall. The simulation lab had several realistic hospital rooms, equipped with multiple electronic computerized mannequins and all of the equipment and technology necessary to resemble a patient's room or operation room. Students had the opportunity to work together to intervene on various patient scenarios and claimed that simulation allowed them to experience situations that required rapid response and critical thinking, which improved their preparation for becoming a nurse.

Another preparation for entering the nursing career field was the computerized testing. Thanks to University technology, the nursing school was able to test students on a computer to better prepare them for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX RN). The December 2010 graduates had a 100 percent pass rate on the NCLEX, an uncommon statistic when compared to other schools nationally. "This accomplishment is particularly noteworthy since the first cohort of accelerated second degree students was included in this group of graduates," dean of the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing Dr. Nena Sanders said. The University's accelerated BSN program allows students with a degree in another field of study to receive a bachelor's degree in fifteen months. The first class began the program in August 2009 and was a part of the 100 percent pass rate. "Recognition for this achievement belongs not only to the students, but to the outstanding undergraduate faculty who taught, mentored and nurtured these students through the nursing program," Sanders said. "The 100 percent pass rate is evidence of the teaching effectiveness of the nursing faculty."

The University's nursing professors provided unique qualities and care for their students. Junior nursing major Brandy Roberts had the one of a kind opportunity to study abroad to London over Jan term. She was a first hand witness to the genuine dedication professors have to see their students succeed. "All of the rumors about the intensity of junior year of nursing school are true," she said. "Never have I worked harder for anything in my life, been discouraged, but also been more encouraged and blessed by my nursing peers and faculty. So far nursing school has been exhausting and rewarding all at the same time. All the endless hours spent in nursing lab, lecture, and at the hospital have finally become worth it. Taking care of patients and realizing you have the ability their sad day a little brighter is worth every second, minute, and hour of this time consuming major."

Roberts's experiences reflected the mission of the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. When Mrs. Moffett founded the school, she wanted others to continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus and spread his love and compassion to others. The school incorporated Mrs. Moffett's beliefs, in addition to excellence in nursing education. The mis-

sion of the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing was to nurture persons in preparation to practice as registered nurses at the basic and advanced practice levels through concentrated study in nursing, by facilitating individual and group learning experiences within the Christian community, so that graduates develop ethical awareness and academic and career competencies in order to serve effectively and compassionately in various health care settings and to be valued by patients and employers in the community.

Junior nursing major Allison Mitchell shared Mrs. Moffett's belief on nursing care with compassion. She had been on multiple medical mission trips and had appreciated the variety of cultural and spiritual nursing assessment that she learned. In summer 2011, she traveled through the Amazon on a medical mission trip. Mitchell was one of many University students who felt a calling to reach and help others in need, and she said she was grateful for the wonderful education and preparation that the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing had provided her.

Right: Junior Allison Mitchell works in the nursing simulation lab.

Senior Spotlights

Stephen Nelson

Involvement at Samford over the past four years:
Presidential Scholar. Pre-Ministerial Scholar. President of the Philosophy Club.

In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:
Samford gave me an education. It took my small limited perspective of history, ideas, the world, and God and expanded it beyond my imagination. The distinguishing factor of my experience was the learning community, with whom I shared many important discussions and memorable adventures.

What professor has influenced you the most and why?
Dr. Dennis Sansom influenced me the most because of his heart and mind. He brings enormous sincerity and dedication to his subject and he genuinely cares about each of his students. After having him for seven classes, I can assure you that he is one of the best Samford has.

What will you miss the most about Samford?
More than anything, I will miss the community. Something special happens when you take a group of people and have them study the same information at the same place and time. Conversations both inside and outside the classroom take the information, the books, the study guides, the papers, and the tests and make them real. Titles, diplomas, and grades are nothing without the community. Samford is filled with good and bright people and I will miss all the ways they have pushed me to learn, to grow, and to love.

What is next for you after Samford?
After Samford, I am looking for a ministry job to prepare me more for seminary and to make some money. I plan to get married next summer (to my Samford sweetheart) and begin seminary shortly thereafter.

What advice do you want to leave with students?
To repeat a command found over and over again in the Bible, "don't be afraid." College is a time to meet people, to have new experiences, to learn new and challenging ideas, and to discover who you are and who you will become. All the newness and separation from the support groups you've had for so long can be intimidating and scary. I challenge students to not be afraid. Work hard, study hard, ask that girl out, try that thing you're afraid you'll be terrible at, be creative, and find ways to love, to serve, and to give back. Don't be so afraid of failing, looking stupid, or not being as good as that other person. Those don't matter. Take advantage of your time and become something fantastic and unique.

How has college prepared you for life after college (spiritually, academically, etc)?
College has given me the gift of wisdom. I understand the world better than I ever have before. I know myself and I know people. Life after college is a series of interactions between myself and others and I'm prepared to navigate that world and to play my part well. I feel well trained for graduate school and to pastor other disciples as we work toward Christ-likeness.

Judith Anne Dansby

Involvement at Samford over the past four years:
University Honors Program, Student Recruitment Team, Resident Assistant for Freshmen Girls, Foundations Peer Mentor, Intramurals, Tutor for Samford University Athletics, Samford Outdoor Club, Communication Studies Department Ambassador, Samford Club Ultimate Frisbee Team

In 2-3 sentences, sum up your Samford experience:
My Samford experience has had an enormous influence on making me who I am today because Samford has challenged me and afforded me invaluable opportunities to learn and grow. In my time here I grew in every dimension: academically, spiritually, socially, and physically. I received a quality education and collected enough memories to last a lifetime.

What professor has influenced you the most and why?
Dr. Charlotte Brammer, because she has taught me what it takes to be a good student and a good writer. My first paper for her CA class she didn't even give me a grade on, but instead asked me to come to her office so we could "work on this." That was a huge blow to my freshman ego, but after four more drafts and multiple meetings, I finally produced something that I could be proud of. In fact, Dr. Brammer was actually the professor who accompanied me four years later when I presented a paper at a Theodore Clevenger Undergraduate Honors Conference this year. This is a testament to my progression as both a writer and a student, and to her diligence and dedication to her students. She is not afraid to challenge her students, but will work with them every step of the way to get them to achieve and even exceed their goals.

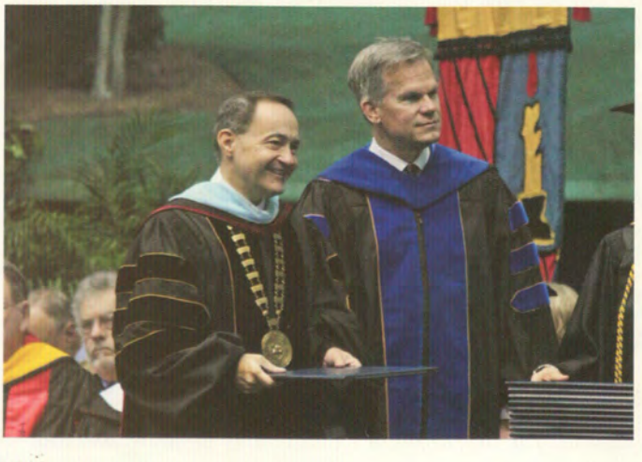
What will you miss the most about Samford?
Sitting in Ben Brown for hours chatting with whoever passes by.

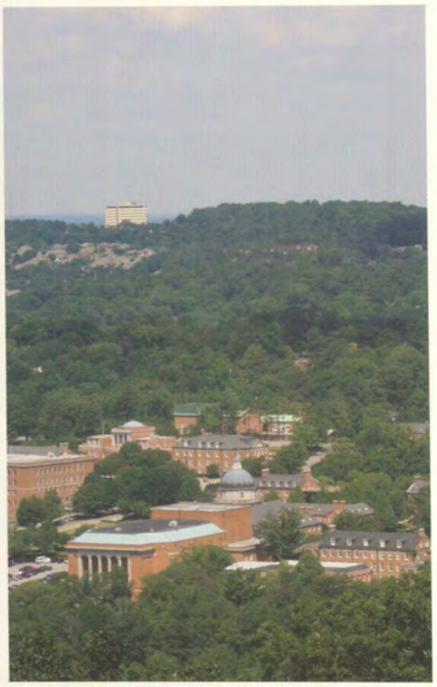
What is next for you after Samford?
After graduation I will be joining the Teach for America Corps. This is an organization that works to close the achievement gap in public schools, and I am extremely excited about the opportunity to contribute towards this goal. I will be teaching English Language Arts courses at the secondary level for two years and after that I will probably go on to further my education with a masters and possibly even a doctorate degree in either Education or Communication Studies.

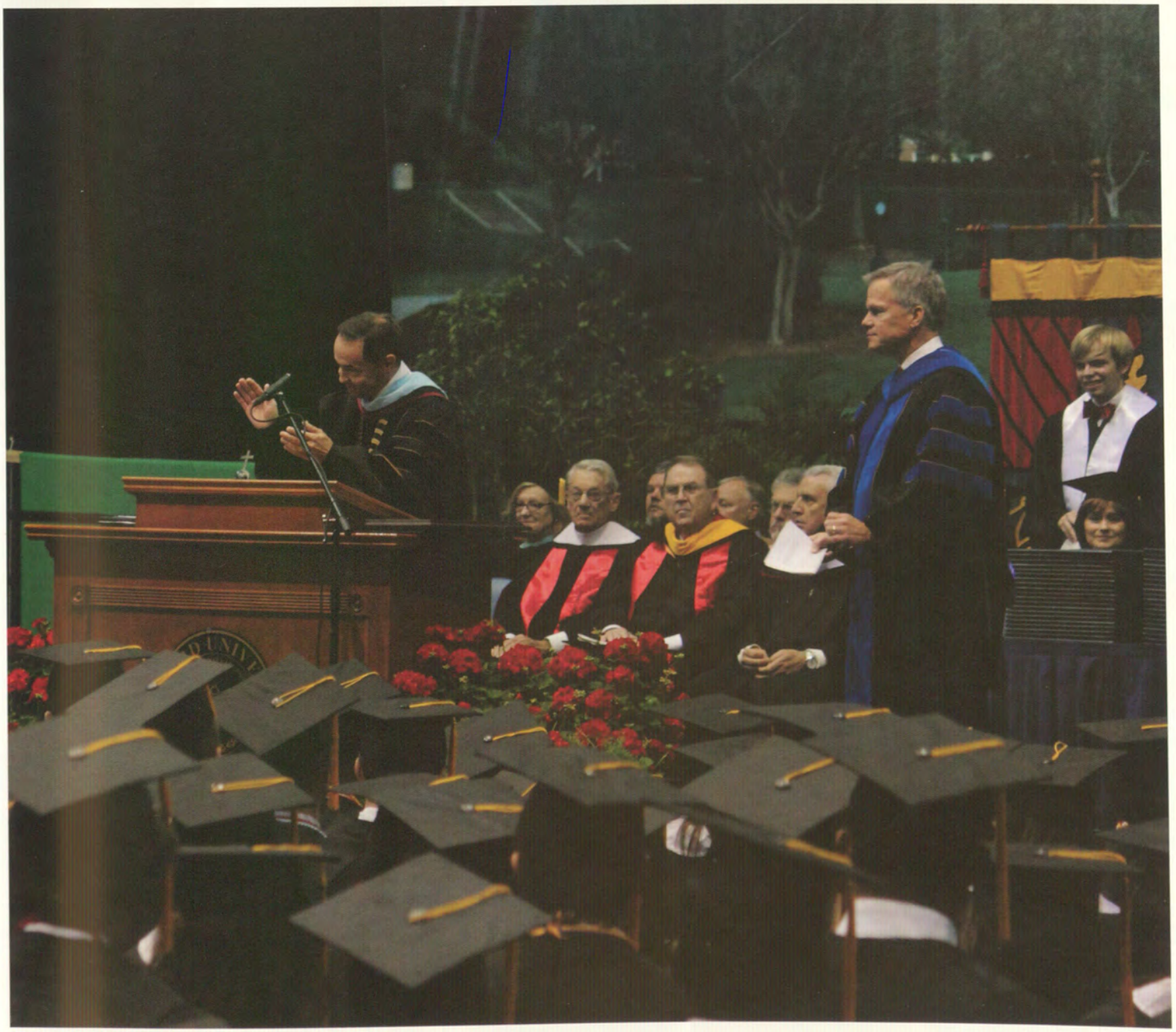
What advice do you want to leave with students?
Study Abroad. My study abroad experiences (in Costa Rica and London) while I was at Samford are some of my most cherished memories. It also is a terrific opportunity to stretch yourself beyond your comfort zone and immerse yourself in another culture. This is a time in your life where you can take off and just experience for the sake of experience. Whether it is a jan-term, a summer, or even a whole semester, a study abroad experience is something that you won't regret, and will always remember.

How has college prepared you for life after college (spiritually, academically, etc)?
Besides giving me a degree, my education at Samford has given me some perspective about who I am and what my place is in the world. I feel like I can now enter any environment and have something to contribute, and Samford taught me a lot of that. I don't know where I'll be in ten, even five years, but I can guarantee that my time at Samford has played a major role in preparing me for whatever it is I am doing. One of my favorite things about Samford is that each department has a way of getting you out of the classroom and into your field of study, be that through scholarly research, internships, or experiential learning. That was important to me, and I feel that it gives Samford grads a step ahead in their lives after graduation.

Photos Courtesy of Judith Anne Dansby and Stephen Nelson







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Amanda Boyd

Joseph Brantley

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Clay Huffaker

Viveka Kellgren

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Katelyn Mitchell

Nicholas Murray

Adam Nichols

Ciera Stoyer

Taylor Strickland

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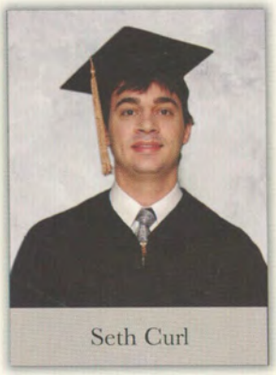
Spencer Anderwald

Heather Arnold

Cody Crewell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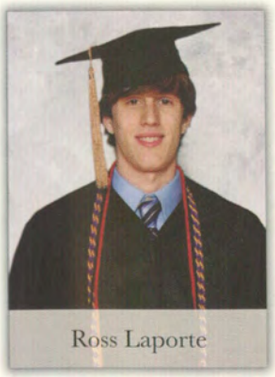
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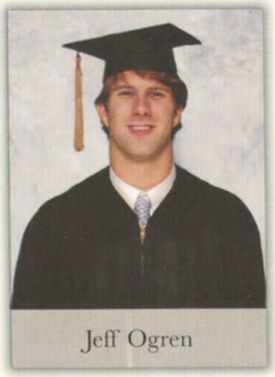
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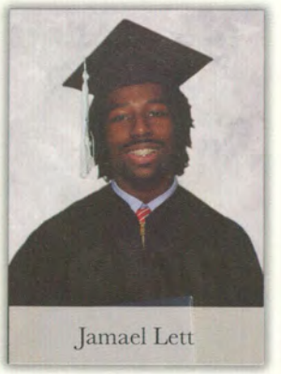
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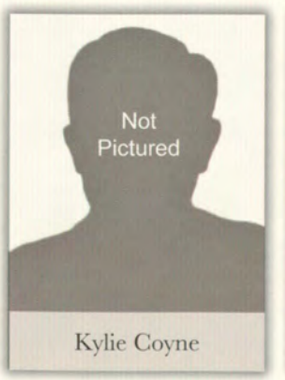

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Harrison Chambers

Shara Lewis

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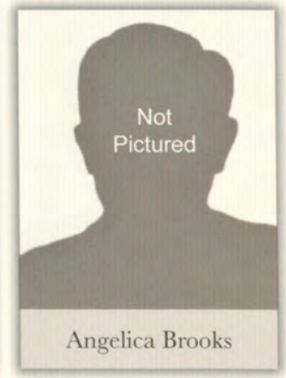

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Kathryn Condit

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Sarah Savage

Austin Senseman

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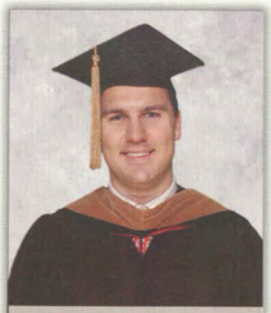
Sydney Trew

Robert Trotter

Yishan Zheng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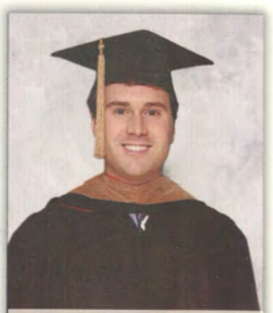
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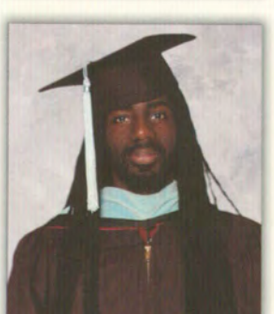
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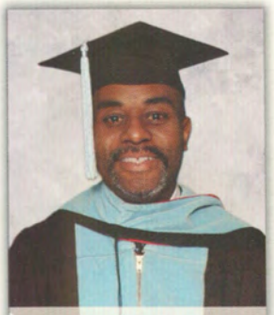
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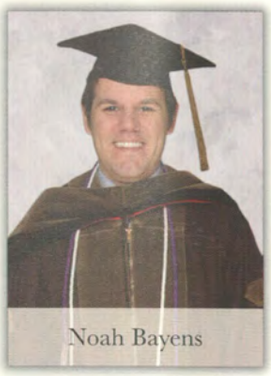
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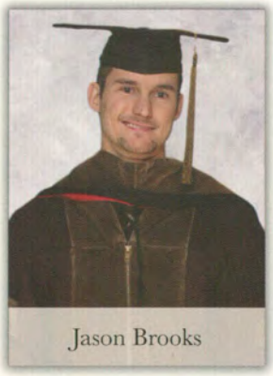
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Samuel Brown

Amy Bryant

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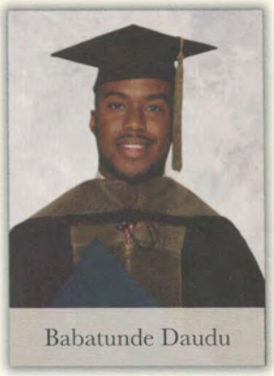
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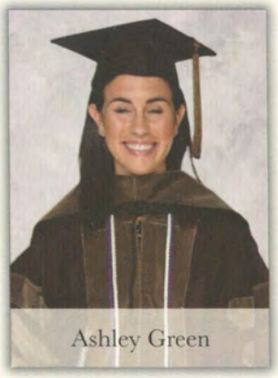
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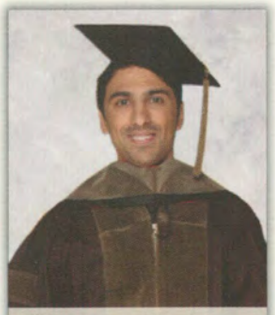
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Benjamin Lowry

Latoya Lynn

Ashley Mardis

Marius Marin

Joey McConnell

Kimberly Medlock

Lacy Miller

Benjamin Murphree

Tara Nygaard

Lindsay Ozga

Elyse Panjic

Karishma Patel

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Christopher Popwell

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Tiffany Radford

Whitney Ray

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Holley Rice

Aaron Ridner

Rachel Roberts

Santonia Stanford

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Diana Scott

Dhaval Shah

Becky Sides

Sean Smeltzer

Alyna Smith

Andrea Spears

Andrea Sullivan

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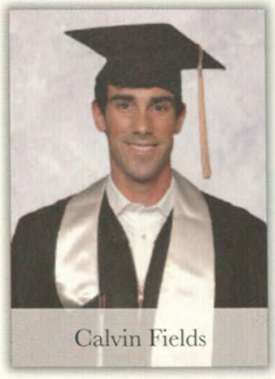
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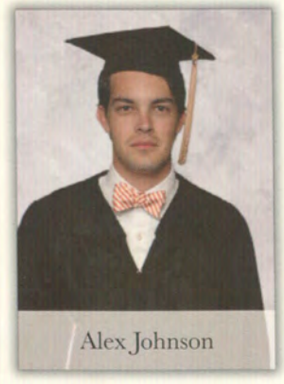
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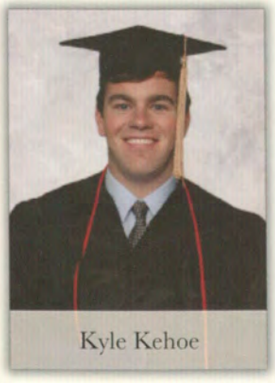
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Robert Putney

James Quinn

Wesley Ranew

Kevin Reed

Brittany Ross

Cara Royse

Jared Salmon

David Schulze

Kendall Shelton

James Shields

Steven Sides

Grace Simmons

Carolyn Smith

Kristen Smith

Maggie Smith

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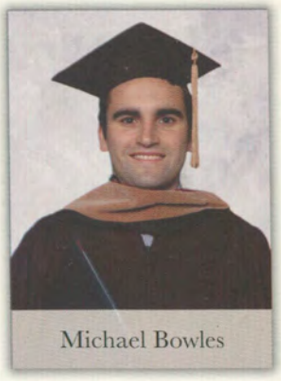
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Lyman Chynoweth

Charles Covey

Joseph Fulk

Denetra Hartzog

Rachel Luker

Michael Moore

Charles Nelson

William Nolen

Sarah Patton

Jonathan Pinnick

Todd Smitherman

Glenn Terrell

Matthew West

Heather Williams

Sara Allen

Emily Apple

Lindsay Baker

Lori Braaten

Lisa Carr

Jane Cunningham

Ashley Davis

Jessica Delaney

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Laura Drury

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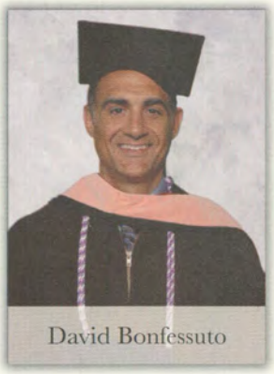
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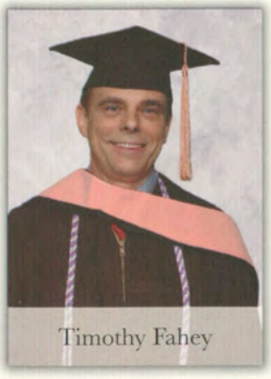
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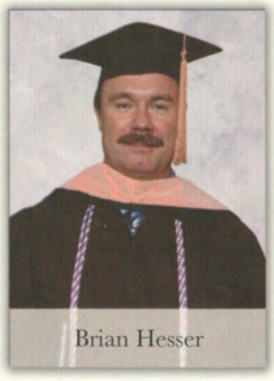
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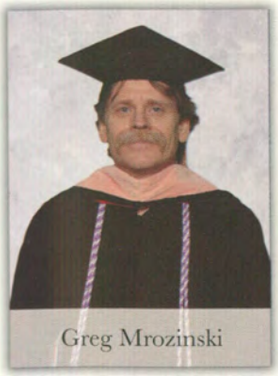
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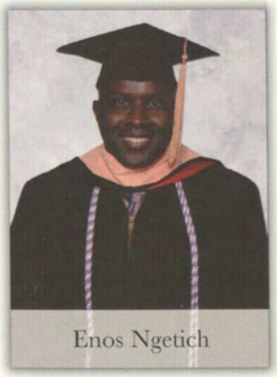
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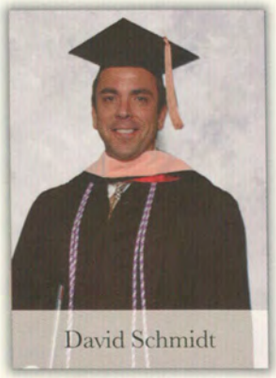
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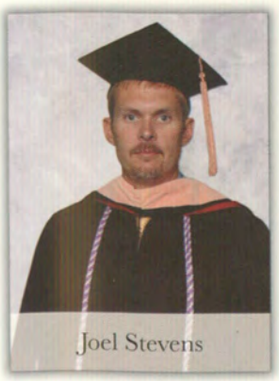
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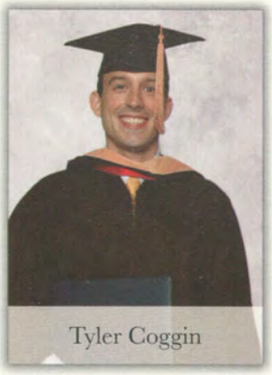
Chad Cochrain


Tyler Coggin

Sara Crowe

Brittany Denson

Laura Doss

Lauren Foster

Autumn Garber

Leigh Anne Goodwin

Jessica Griffin

Stacey Heath

Stacey Pepper

Jacqueline Richardson

Robert Rumanek

Katherin Schneider

Nathan Shurden

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Ronald Woods

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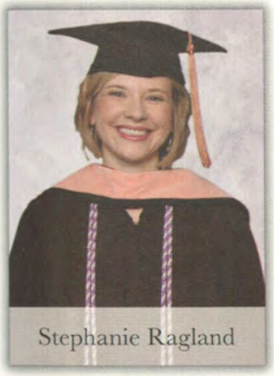
Jill Butler

Mandy Deshotels

Kimberly French

Vicki Hill


Stephanie Ragland

Agnes Distati

Cecelia Holden

Cheryl Hollema

Arlene Jones

Ann McDonald

Rowland Ramdass

Karen Taylor

Kimberly Auriemma

Joanna Hendrix

Colleen Manzetti

Kelly Simmons

Suan Beaird

Karen Caudle

Renee Daniels

David Fort

Jennifer Giles

Katherin Harrison

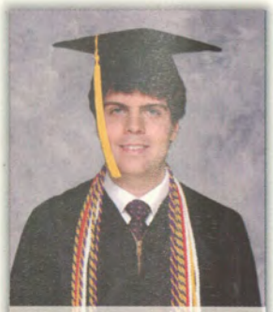
Kerry Kokaisel

Dan Hall Jr

Whitley Crowder

Jessica Cunningham

Judith Dansby


Richard Goodwin

Brittany Johnson

Kathryn Ormsbee

Brian Powell

Thomas Ryden

Jack Wilgus

Katie Carroll

Colette Nammour

Connor Ojard

Hillary Sawyer

Andrew Atkinson

Mary Baggett

Cara Beasley

Brooke Blews

Margaret Bond

Maribeth Browning

Shannon Brunner

Anna Bryant

John Bunt

Clayton Caldwell

Katharine Campbell

Leanna Cannafax

Michael Chunn

Matthew Click

Lindsay Clinkingbeard

Jayme Cloninger

Ashley Collins

Samuel Collins

Jacob Colwell

John Corwin

Ashley Cox

Matthew Culbreth

Cecily Curl

Kelwin de Wet

Daron Dominguez

Leah Duncan

Corinne Dyer

Ellen Edmonson

Kara Felton

Christopher Fite

Mary Margaret Flippo

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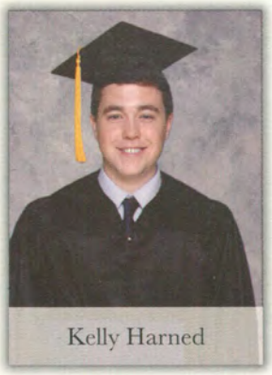
Amber Glenn

Charles Graham

Melissa Gunter

Madison Hlal

Mary Hall


Kelly Harned

Katherine Harrell

Bethany Harriage

Emily Hart

Josh Hartley

Rich Havard

Madelyn Henderson

Erin Holman

Meredith Howard

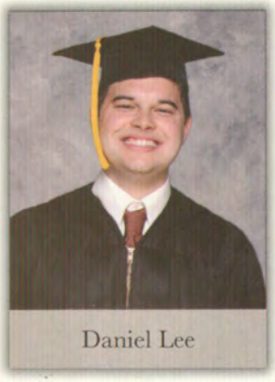
Marybeth Hudson

Angela Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Molly Jones

Megan Lacey


Daniel Lee

Christopher Legette

Daniel Lentz

Thomas Little

Julie Lockette

Emily London

Scott Loveless

Milan Omayo

Bronson McGriff

Megan McLain

Jon Meads

Kathryn Meriwether

Jay Meservy

Chris Meyer

Adam Mixon

Alexandra Moore

Stephen Nelson

Elizabeth Newton

Theodore Johnston

Molly Obrien

Kristen Ottaviano

Alison Ozment

Edgerly Perreault

William Phillips

Lauren Pilcher

Kathleen Cara Pinson

James Cooper Pinson

Tessa Pitts

Drew Pomeroy

Leah Primm

Ryan Reed

David Rice

Matthew Roberts

Mary Laura Rogan

Lauren Rogers

William Daniel Roland

William Rosenberger

Jessica Sansom

Emily Sells

Nathan Sergeant

Lauren Sharpe

Joshua Sheppard

Sarah Smothers

Destiny Soria

William Statham

Sandra Steinbacher

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Jennifer Taylor

Megan Terrile

Elizabeth Wade

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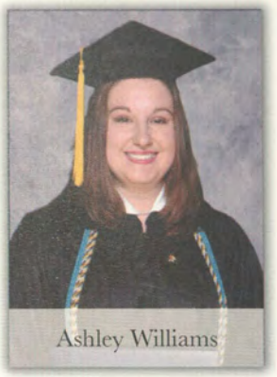
Laura Waters

Heather West

Tara White

Taylor Whitley

Anna Wilgus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Horace Williams

Lauren Womack

Kelly Zimmerman

Martha Acton

Stephen Bailey

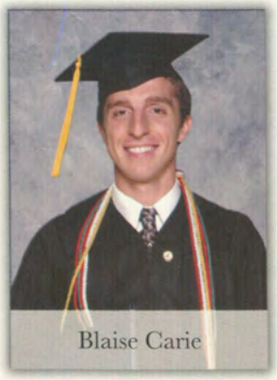
Alexander Barnett

Jon Boatwright

Danielle Brown

Kate Brown

Christon Burns


Blaise Carie

Daniel Childs

Lane Clemons

Joshua Cooke

Mason Cooner

Jeffrey Cope

Danielle Darby

Austin Davis

Lauren Davis

Laura Dzugan

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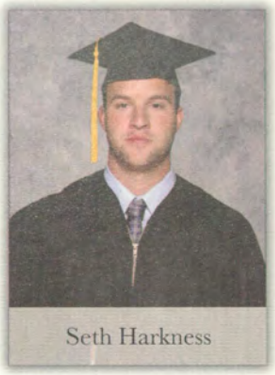
Michelle Foreman

Katherine Fuller

Emily Goins

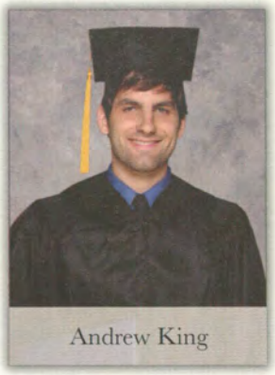

Seth Harkness

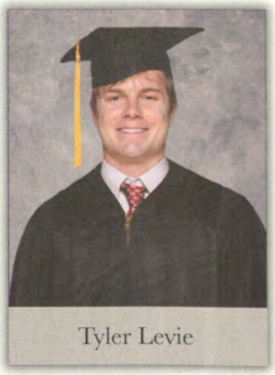
Tyler Hooper

Semyon Karaman

Angela Keffer

Elizabeth Kelly

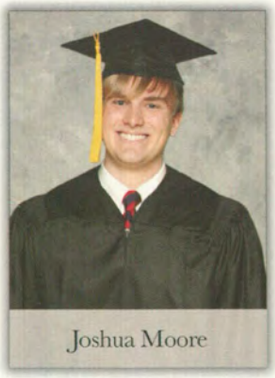

Andrew King


Tyler Levie

Kathryn Matherly

Sarah McGough

Benjamin Meadows


Joshua Moore

Matthew Parker

Gregory Reburn

Brittany Ross

Katelyn Rouch

Ashley Spann

Sheriden Stangohr

Brittannie Stanley

Lauren Sullivan

April Thomas

James Whately

Barrett Worley

Jonathan Zeiger

Ann Duncan

Jennifer Bridgmon

Jamie Johnson

Linda Mann

LaShaun Brown

Drew Anderwald

Jeffrey Ferrell

Rose Hebert

Andreal Howard

Jennifer Jones

Steven Miles

Katrina Nelson

Stephanie Brown

Alexandria Buenger

Heather Byrd

Catherine Cargile

Lauren Carlisle

Amanda Cotton

Taylor Dipiazza

Lydia Gritz

Elizabeth Haley

Allison Hamby

Ranaie Hensley

Sarah Hollis

Kellie Homrig

Sarah Hunt

Madeline Kennedy

Erin McAbee

Jennifer McGraw

Shelley Monroe

Kelly Morris

Alice Reynolds

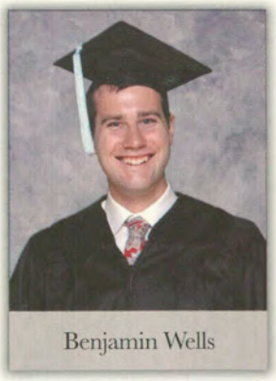
Nicole Roberts

Kathryn Sharp

Rachel Thiebaud

Jillian Tice

Rebecca Townsend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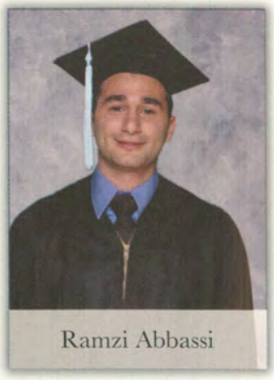

Ramzi Abbassi

Ina Ables

Brett Anderson

Samantha Bland

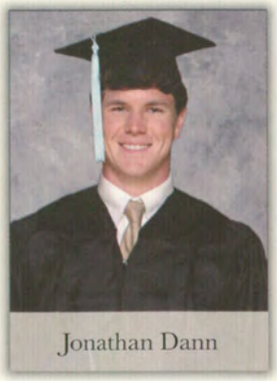
Rachel Bryan

Hannah Byland

Gary Cramer III

Brandi Cruse

Brian Daniel


Jonathan Dann

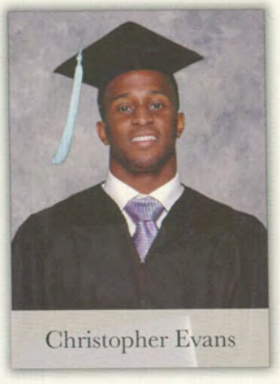
Christopher Davis

Sydney Davis

William Denton

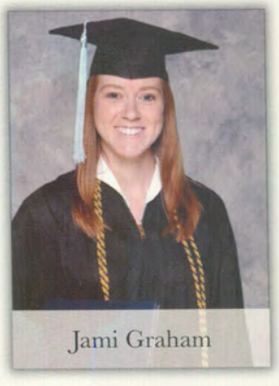
Joseph Durham

Suzanne Emery


Christopher Evans

Ranae Ewing

Emily George


Jami Graham

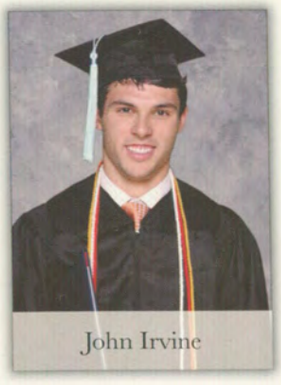
Matthew Groves

Kara Hardin

Rachel Hardin

Patrick Hatcher

Anna Victoria Irons


John Irvine

Elrick Johnson

Emma Lane

Leah Leppert

Tiffany Lowery

Ana Marchman

William Mathews

Carleton Meadows

Ben Moore

Lindsey Pimentel

Jeremy Richardson

Sadie Sandifer

Megan Scott

Meagan Sloan

Hugh Smith

Dawn Terry

Darrick Thomas

Nancy Thompson

Morgan Tyler

Olivia Wagoner

Kathryn Warr

Kathleen West

Patricia Wilson

Amy Allen

Mary Avery

Sarah Branum

Lacey Briggs

Stacey Burnett

Chelsea Byrd

Kasey Claussen

Tama Davis

Brooke Deneen

Emily Evans

Hillary Fountain

Caroline Germany

Rebecca Glenn

Virginia Hardison

Timothy Hawk

Lindsay Heinz

Jennifer Houston

Courtney Kelley

Linda King

Keighlee McCaslin

Mary McDowell

Kristen McElroy

Candice Milam

Molly Mitchell

Erica Oleary

Andrea Orr

Brittany Phillips

Stephanie Pike

David Presley

Zachariah Seanor

Lellia Shipp

Paige Slaughter

Bryce Smith

Emily Smothers

Lexie Strong

Lauren Swletzer

Ashla Taylor

Laurel Turner

Haley Venard

Hannah Weber

Abigail Welbourn

Caroline Wheatley

Chelsi Williams

Lindsay Wilson

Ashley Womack

Elyssa Ham

Sarah Chase Kee

Lynda Nolen

Lisa Wright

Reese Armstrong

Lindsay Calhoun

Justine Davis

Casi Harris

Jessy Mayfield

Hannah Seymour

Anna Lauren Carpenter

Hannah Frees

David Gavin

Laura Ashlee Graves

Evelyn Stagnro

Sarah Cottingham

Kaitlyn Crocker

Charles Everett

Cameron Johnson

Ryan Jones

Andrew Sparks

Patrick Waters

Haleigh Willingham

Anna Woods

Steven Zehren

Lauren Bosley

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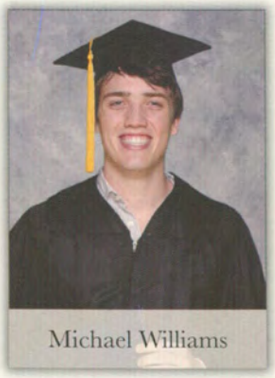
Enoch Ko

Melynda Mesler

Amanda Tapley


Michael Williams

William Cochran

Robert Stanfield

Priscilla Tapio

Craig Tucker

Jennifer Abney

Tammy Butler

Kathryn Case

Christina Gonzolez

Jessica Hahn

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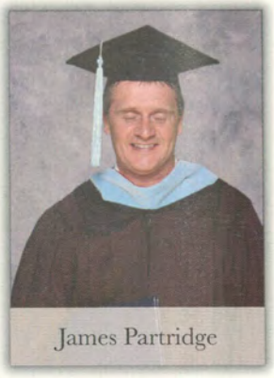
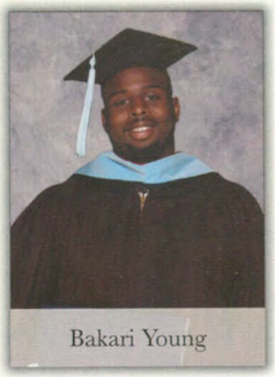
Lauren Lunceford

Caroline Monroe

Courtney Palmer

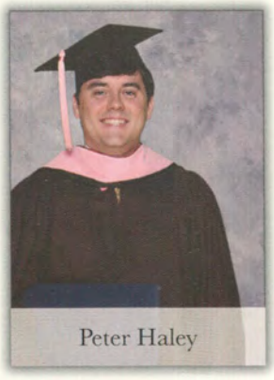

James Partridge

Lark Tanksley


Bakari Young

Keith Brandenburg

Laura Beth Gable


Peter Haley

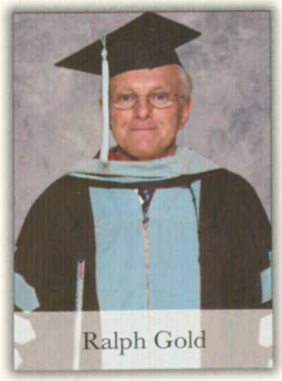
John Adam King

Cassidy Jordan

Barbara Cartledge

Abeer Haddad

Dennis Conner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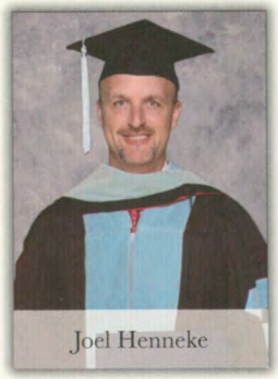
Joel Henneke

Brian Lindsey

Melissa Wildman-Brool

Timothy Willingham

Cassie Witcher

Taylor-Lee Wickersham

Gardener Jett

Rosemary Alexander

Frederick Allison

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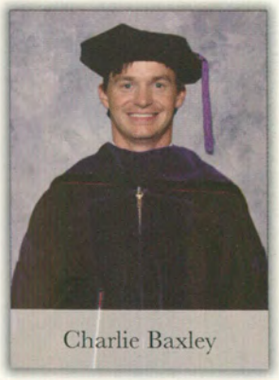
Kendra Apple

Elizabeth Barclay

Michael Barnett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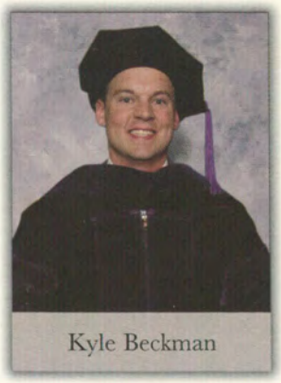
Christine Baylet

Jordan Beard


Kyle Beckman

Jonathan Bedwell

Eric Bevill

Caitlin Bouldin

John Brewer

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Lawton Callihan

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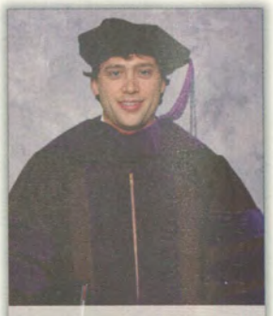

John Mann

James Massey

Kara Massey

Jane Mauzy

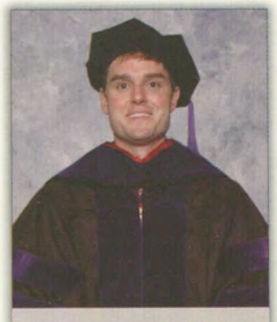
Douglas McMillian

Hannah Mebane

Nadia Mitchell

Robert Moody

Ryan Morgan


Alexander Munderlah

Megan Murren

Brandon Neal

Charles Nelson

Shannon Oguin

Leslie Palmer

Katie Parrett

Sarah Peters

John Eric Peterson Jr

Kenneth Peterson

Brandon Prince

Josh Reif

Allison Riley

Allieze Roberts

Christopher Romeo

Sheri Rouse

Molly Savage

Aaron Scholl

Heather Searcy

Kristen Schields

Kristen Sims

Jeffrey Smith

Tim Smith

Nesha Spencer

Pamela Springrose

Christopher Stanfield

Jonathan Stokes

Andrew Sullivan

Aaron Summer

Anna Terry

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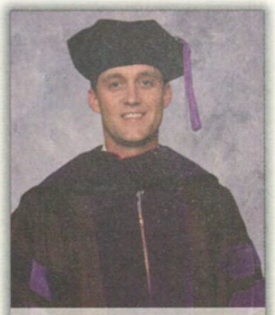
Brittany Waggener

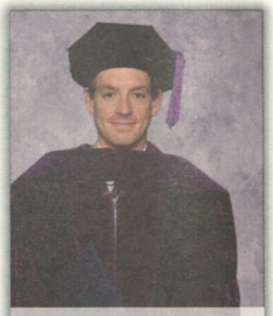
Patrick Warfield

Benjamin Wear


Matthew West

Sheena Whitaker

Ginny Wilcox


William Williamson

Amber Wilson

Christopher Yearout

Brandon Zimmerman

Buntharika Suchdayon

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Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

I Timothy 4:12